



News Tidbits

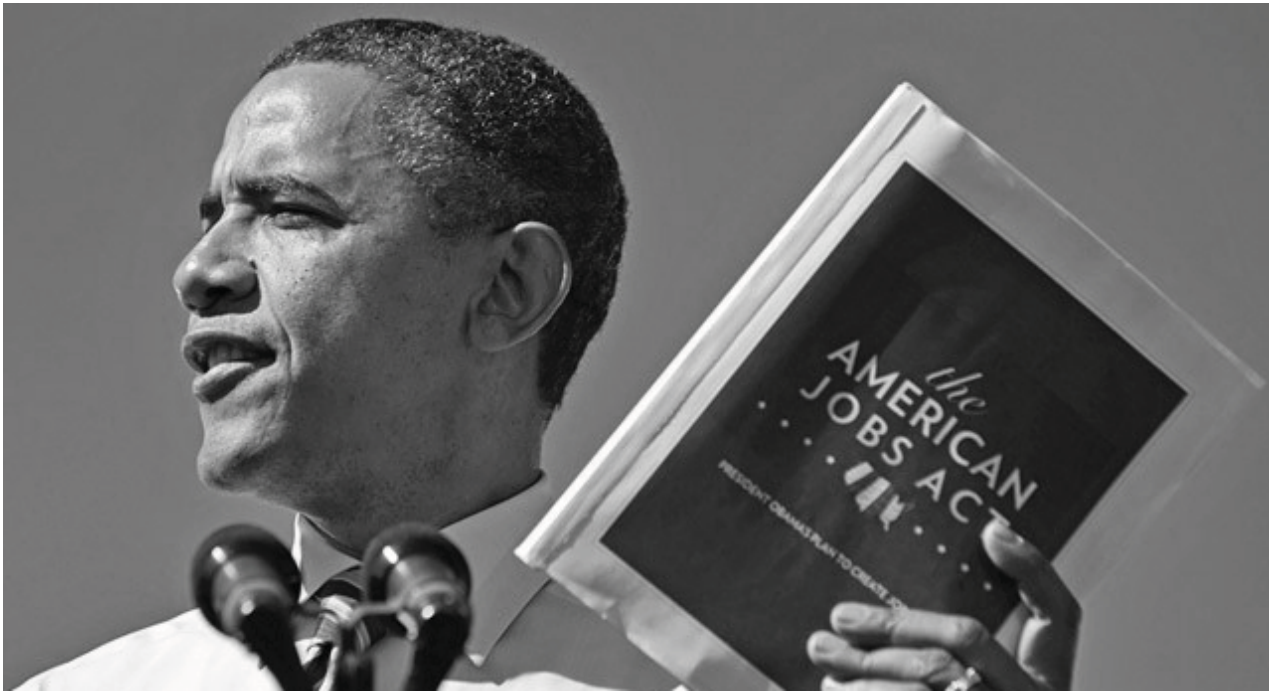
>>>Earlier this month, Jeff Hindman, a Floridian, while out for a stroll, discovered an eight-foot-tall, hundred-pound Lego man on Siesta Key Beach. The Lego figure included an inscription on its chest, reading “NO REAL THAN YOU ARE” and “Ego Leonard” on its back. Executives from Lego, upon inspecting the figure, declared that it was a counterfeit made of fiberglass, not the plastic material characteristic of Lego figurines. The local police department confiscated the figure and will return it to Hindman if no one claims it. If that happens, Hindman says he will then place it on eBay.

>>>On October 29, in California’s Sequoia National Forest, park rangers faced the largest of roadblocks: a 1,500-year-old, 300-foot-long Sequoia tree blocking off a forest trail way. Environmentalists say that the best solution is no solution. “Leaving the tree where it is is a good lesson of how nature changes,” they claim.

>>>According to a press conference with Mark Zuckerberg, Facebook’s new “Trusted Friends” security feature allows for only .06 percent of one billion log-ins per day to be compromised. Facebook critics who often speculate upon privacy capabilities note that .06 percent of one billion is still 600,000. Though it is unclear how many of these security breaches are actually successful, Facebook asserts that it only means they succeeded in protecting their users’ privacy 600,000 times per day.

>>>Mitt Romney, like Rick Santorum, has been added to the group of politicians that has been hurt by Google searches. When one searches the phrase, “Romney can win,” Google’s “Did you mean:...” feature returns with “Did you mean: Romney can’t win?” The actual reason for the words is not an attack on Romney by Google; it is an innocent result of the algorithms used for the functionality of the search engine.

Jobs Act Spurs Controversy



PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA DEFENDS HIS JOBS ACT

By WINNIE ZHANG, I
STAFF WRITER

President Barack Obama unveiled his jobs plan last month to an America impatient with the inaction in Washington and in search of new jobs. In the weeks following the announcement of the American Jobs Act, not much has changed. Republicans are adamant about not increasing federal spending and have released their own jobs plans, none of which include any of the items in Obama’s proposal. Meanwhile, frustrated Americans have been protesting government inaction in nationwide protests sparked by Occupy Wall Street.

The American Jobs Act, priced at 447 billion dollars, includes tax breaks, investment in infrastructure

projects and assistance for the long-term unemployed. The President has said that the Act will not add to the deficit and that everything in the bill will be paid for. He has asked the Committee on Deficit Reduction to find ways to cut an additional 447 billion dollars from the growth of the federal deficit, on top of the 1.5 trillion dollars in cuts he had previously requested.

The tax breaks portion of the bill will cut the payroll tax in half to help out small businesses as well as lower and middle class workers. It also provides extra incentives for businesses that will add jobs or increase wages. Obama is hoping that Republicans will respond positively to these tax cuts, a cause they have been trumpeting since the 2010 midterm elections.

The bill also calls for 140 billion dollars to “rebuild and modernize” America. Provisions include 35 billion dollars toward rehiring teachers and first responders, 50 billion dollars for transportation projects and 30 billion dollars to improve outdated and decaying schools. Locally, Massachusetts schools could receive 378.6 million dollars if the bill passes, according to the US Department of Education.

Obama’s plan also includes reforming the unemployment insurance system and extending unemployment benefits for another year.

In a Gallup poll on the American Jobs Act, a majority of Americans voted in support of the jobs plan.

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Alumni Make BLS History

By B. KIM, I
ALEC MACNEIL, II
& ALICE XIAO, III
NEWS EDITORS & ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Saturday, October 15, was a monumental day for Boston Latin School Alumni. Two names were added to the lower frieze of the auditorium: Sheldon Seevak and Patrick Roche, both Latin School alumni themselves from the class of 1946. These two philanthropists were given this honor due to their generous contributions to Boston Latin School and adherence to its mission statement.

Patrick Roche, native of Roslindale and co-founder of the Roche Bros. grocery store chain, is a long-time donor to the Boston Latin School, as well as the Greater Boston Area. After graduating from Boston Latin, he went on to continue his studies at Boston College, for which he has become a prominent benefactor.

Roche has consistently shown love for his community by generously donating to his alma maters and other schools as well as various community centers. “I grew up in Sa-

cred Heart Parish in Roslindale and went to Sacred Heart School, and I appreciate what it did for me.” One of his most significant contributions is the Boston Latin School’s second gymnasium. It is only through the contributions of Roche and his wife Barbara, that Latin School’s physical education, health and sports departments can provide so much support for its students.

Sheldon “Shelley” Seevak “bled purple”, as Judi Freeman said. Ms. Freeman is the Seevak Chair of Boston Latin School. The Seevak Chair is the honorary name given to Ms. Freeman’s teaching position, which Sheldon Seevak endowed. At most colleges, there are endowed chairs, but it is very unusual for a high school, especially a public high school, to have such a thing.

Graduating from the school shortly after World War II, Seevak felt a need to create a course which would “change the students’ lives”—one that would teach about social justice and genocide. Thus he left a substantial endowment to create and sustain the Facing History and Ourselves course at BLS.

The Facing History and Our-

selves course is not Seevak’s only gift to the Latin School. Sheldon Seevak is also responsible for the birth of the Seevak Website Competition as well as the Seevak Human Rights Fellowship. Both programs promote the application of skills which Mr. Seevak found to be essential. The Seevak Website Competition entails the research and creation of a webpage about an individual or group that has made a profound difference in society. Despite his age, Seevak was very interested in technology; he felt that a website competition would be a great way for students to learn more about it while finding an appreciation for community values. Meanwhile, the Seevak Human Rights Fellowship was created so that about ten Facing History students could have a chance to apply what they learned in the classroom at their paid internships with human rights organizations. “I can’t think of a better person to be on that wall. Knowing that Shelley is there in perpetuity is just thrilling to me. It was an inspired and right thing to do,” said Ms. Freeman.

Patrick Roche and Sheldon Seevak have helped to make BLS the place that it is today.

Qaddafi Murdered by Rebels

By MIKE SKERRET, III
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

After eight months of rebellion that captivated the world, rebels in Libya have removed their dictator in the most effective way possible: killing him. Muammar Qaddafi was the longest serving Arab ruler up until his death on October 20, having ruled for 42 years with an iron fist. Although he started several wars and oppressed his own people, the living standards in Libya were the highest of any African nation, and the country remained largely debt-free. After seeing revolutions in neighboring Tunisia and Egypt, protestors in Libya started a full-scale uprising that unfolded across the country, leading to the formation of the National Transitional Council in Benghazi as an opposition force to Qaddafi’s rule. As civilians revolted and caused chaos throughout Libya, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) stepped in, providing protection for the citizens of Libya with a no-fly zone instituted throughout the country.

After the months of their bloody struggle for freedom, rebels killed Qaddafi as the town of Sirte fell. It is unclear exactly how he died, with some sources reporting that he was shot in the head and died instantly, and others saying that he bled to death for over an hour. The exact facts are muddled, but one thing is known for sure: the Libyan people are going to be faced with some tough decisions in the near future. Although this is a victory in the sense that fighting has stopped for now, there are differing opinions on how the new government should be run. Also, there are many tribes among the rebels now vying for power in the unstable country. Some who supported Qaddafi will undoubtedly continue the fight, even though he is dead. Others will say that he should have been put on trial, and there are also those who think his death at the hands of the rebels is a tragedy for Libya. He knew more about foreign policy than perhaps anyone in the new government and would have been an invaluable asset to ensuring Libya’s survival in this transitional period.

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NEWS

President Vanya Zvonar



Almost every day this year, sitting half asleep in class, I have looked around and wondered, when am I ever going

to see these people again? If you think about it, school is a very strange place. We spend hours every day with people that we probably would have never met otherwise and talk to people we probably would have never talked to if we hadn't been assigned a seat next to them. Over the past five going on six years, all of us have sat next to a huge variety of people, and whether or not we all get along with each other, hate each other or love each other, we are unique, and the time we spend together is precious.

In June, when we all walk across the graduation stage, praying we won't trip in our heels (ladies), we will finally be handed a pass out of this place. Most of us will continue on with our education for at least another four years and then go on to join the real world of now seven billion people. What is the probability that we will ever meet again in the real world? For those of you who take Stats, feel free to do the math, but for now I'm

just going to settle for a very low probability. So what am I saying? We need to make the most of this year because this is the only senior year we are ever going to have (hopefully), and we only have a little more time to spend with each other before we go off in our separate directions.

I would need a calculator to add up the number of times I have heard people say "I hate this place," or "Get me out of here." There are definitely days when these phrases fill my mind. But the fact is, BLS has changed all of us in a way that no one but ourselves will ever understand. How many people walking down the street can recite the first declension in Latin? Puella, puellae, puellae, puellam, puella (with that little mark on the top). You know you're never going to forget that, just because you went to BLS. No matter how much you think you hate this place, deep down inside, at least some day, you will find

some appreciation and look back at all of this and smile.

Until then, we have one more year to fill with stress and late nights of homework, but hopefully also with some happy memories. I hate being redundant, especially since you heard eight people say this already in speeches, but our main goal for this year is to communicate amongst ourselves, which we have done a good job of so far, and to make the best of our remaining time together. Each person has his or her individual part, but as a whole we are greater than the sum of these parts (yes, Shi An, I know that doesn't actually make sense mathematically; it's just an expression). Together we can make this the best year possible and live the end of our BLS careers the same way we have lived our past years at BLS: in our own unique fashion. We are the one and only BLS Class of 2012, and this is our senior year. So let's live it like we mean it. SENIO12S!

Vice President Bridget Nee



Hello Boston Latin School! And hello to the class of 2012! I am SO happy to be writing this address to you all. To say

it's an honor to have been chosen as the senior class vice president is an understatement. Thank you all so, so much. I truly appreciate the faith and trust you've put in me to make this year as productive as possible. I have to give a special thanks to Aisling Kerr, Alexia Spinney, Hatim Aitirhli and, of course, Eshe Sherley for being so supportive and good spirited throughout the campaign. Thank you guys for making this experience so memorable and so much fun!

I can vividly remember sitting in Mr. Haritos' Earth Science class sixie year, listening to his calculations of how far along in our Latin School careers we were. Those calculations seemed ridiculous to me at the time, because it actually felt like it would take centuries to get to the year 2012. Even sophomore year seemed like a stretch then! But to my, and I think I can say OUR, disbelief, seniors, 2012 is here! No one word can sum up the excite-

ment, accomplishment, relief and pride I know we all have as the senior class of the Boston Latin School. This is it. It may not seem it, with college applications and extracurriculars and hours of homework piling up daily, but before we know it, we'll be at the Bank of America Pavilion, receiving the ultimate reward for all of those sleepless nights and all that hard work—a diploma.

Before then, however, I'd like to make sure that we as a class come together more than we ever have before. I want to make sure we ALL make the best out of our last days here. Participating in Wacky Wednesdays, cheering on sports teams on senior nights or at playoff games and going to performances in the Black Box are just some of the ways we can bond with each other one last time. The class officers and I have quite a few other ideas for senior class bonding and fundraising, and we'll be talking to you about them in the upcoming

weeks. A karaoke fundraiser is definitely something we're trying to pull off.

I want to emphasize your ideas. Please email me or any of the other class officers with any questions, concerns or suggestions. Feedback is more than welcome! We're new at this, so please do not hesitate to let us know if we're not communicating with you as well as you'd like! We want to make you happy.

I truly just want to make the best of this year. I want to laugh and smile and make memories with you all, and I mean that. I want to be able to look back on this year and remember it as my favorite year at Boston Latin School, and I'm sure you all feel the same way. Seniors, thank you so, so much for your trust in me and for making my time here so incredible. Now let's get ready to leave the greatest legacy at Boston Latin School... ever. SENIO12S-YOU KNOW YOU WANNA BE ONE TWO!

Plan to Assassinate Al-Jubeir Foiled

By MIKE MURRAY, II
STAFF WRITER

In yet another foiled terror plot, two Iranian men were charged with conspiring to kill a foreign official and intent to use a weapon of mass destruction. They planned to detonate two bombs, both in Washington, D.C. One was to be placed at the Israeli Embassy, the other at the Saudi Arabian Embassy. They also planned to hire an assassin to kill the Saudi Arabian Envoy to the United States, Adel al-Jubeir.

The plot was first discovered in May 2011, when one of the accused men, Mansoor Arbabsiar approached a Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) informant in Reynosa, Mexico, near his home state of Texas. He was seeking the help of the

Zetas drug cartel in the assassination attempt on the Saudi Envoy, and was willing to pay 1.5 million dollars for the death of the envoy.

The United States suspects that the Iranian government played a role in this assassination attempt. "The plot was conceived, was sponsored, and was directed from Iran, and constitutes a flagrant violation of U.S. and international law...The United States is committed to holding Iran responsible for its actions," said U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder. The second man charged in the case is Gohlam Shakuri. Mr. Shakuri is a member of the Quds Force, a unit in the Iranian Revolutionary Guard. The Force is tasked with carrying out the mission of the Iranian Revolution in foreign countries. The Quds Force is categorized as a terrorist

organization by United States intelligence agencies. Two relatively low-key agencies in anti-terrorism, the Department of the Treasury and the DEA, are credited with foiling the plot.

President Obama has officially stated that members in the upper tiers of Iranian government were aware of this plot and must be held accountable. Iran has reportedly denied any involvement in the plan to carry out the assassination and bombings. The United States has confirmed that they met with Iranian diplomats at the United Nations. This is very rare due to the fact the United States and Iran have a history of poor relations. It has not been confirmed whether or not Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad or Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, the two top leaders in Iran, were aware of the plot.

In the very beginning, when the Libyans were just starting to rebel, Qaddafi was offered a way out. He could have had due process, where he would have been tried for his crimes in a just manner. He could have had something far better than that, which was asylum in another country like Nicaragua. If he had stepped down as dictator, he would have been given the option to enjoy a rich retirement, where he would have lived in quiet comfort for the rest of his life, instead of causing a civil war that killed thousands of Libyans. Although some argue that this would not

The United States is viewing the plot as an act of terrorism. President Obama is attempting to have the world community react to Iran and join him in condemning its actions. Initial reactions from numerous other nations were skeptical, because of the dramatic and extensive nature of the plot. U.S. diplomats throughout the world are distributing information and evidence tying Iran to the plot in their respective countries.

One possible motive for the plot lies in a diplomatic cable from April 2008. Al-Jubeir, the target of the assassination, stated to an American diplomat in Riyadh, that he wanted the United States to take military action against the Iranian nuclear program. It has not been confirmed whether or not this was the true reason for the plot.

have given him the punishment that he deserved, it would have saved the countless lives that were lost in the struggle to overthrow Qaddafi.

Either way, the country must not dwell on what could have been. The clock is ticking, and the rebels must institute a new government quickly, because Qaddafi's supporters will be rallying to continue the fight. The country needs a stable government so that they can continue to rebuild and work for the rights of all people in Libya. Muammar Qaddafi may be dead, but there is still a long way to go.

QADDAFI MURDERED BY REBELS *Continued from page 1*

As news of Qaddafi's death spread around the globe, Libyans took to the streets in countless nations to celebrate what they have been waiting their whole life for. "Words can't really describe the feeling of Libyans in Libya or those in the diaspora in exile around the world," says Ahmed Adaraat, a second generation Libyan exile who lives in the United States. "It's been a long time coming, but everybody's happy to see this thing." On

NEWS

Treasurer Kevin Liang



Sometimes, I use my sister's Garnier Fructis fortifying shampoo because it smells good. If you walk past a boys' bathroom and hear someone screeching some Bruno Mars song, it's probably me. I own all three seasons of the cartoon "Avatar: The Last Airbender," and I still play with Nerf guns (I refuse to grow up). I have an obsessive infatuation with ketchup, but tomatoes gross me out. I've also started talking to myself. Basically, you guys voted for a complete whack-job into office. Y'all must be bananas bonkers.

I'm Kevin NoMiddleName Liang. The "i" in Liang is silent. My last name is pronounced "LANG." Don't ask me why...perhaps Momma Liang believes

that "ia" is a diphthong (if you don't know what this is, you are not a true Latin student).

I am truly honored to be elected as Class Treasurer. It is a distinct privilege to serve my class, to represent and advocate our class's opinions and to work with the other class officers to make senior year our most enjoyable year at BLS. I am more than ready to organize creative and innovative fundraisers that will increase our class budget and help fund future senior events to promote class unity. I will not betray the trust of the remarkable Class of 2012.

Since Turkey Day is coming up, I want to express my deep gratitude and appreciation for the Class

of 2012. I am thankful for all of my supporters throughout the race who gave me the determination to win. I am thankful for everyone who ran for class office; all of the candidates made the election extremely competitive and stressful, yet exciting and enjoyable. I am thankful for my campaign helpers, who helped me brainstorm spectacular slogans (Oh dang, vote for Liang!) and who suffered from temporary blindness after making neon-colored posters for my campaign. Finally, I am thankful for "the talented, the infamous, and the downright sexy Class of 2012." KEEP IT FRESH, SENIORS, and thank you for voting Liang for that Kaching Kaching.

Secretary Jillian Baker



means a lot to me. This is a great honor, representing our senior class as secretary. Also, I want to congratulate not only my fellow class officers Vanya, Bridgette and Kevin, but I would also like to congratulate everyone who ran for one of the class officer positions. The campaign process required a lot of hard work and dedication and I feel that everyone who ran deserves to be recognized for their great work.

Senior year has finally come (thank goodness!). We have worked extremely hard to get to where we are today and the underclassmen are working just as hard to get here as well. We need to be proud of ourselves! When I tell people outside of school that I am a senior at Boston Latin School, the oldest public school in America, people are impressed! It is not easy to succeed here. It takes blood, sweat, tears and the longing to succeed. These last five or three years have been extremely difficult mentally, emotionally and physically, but we made it. We are SENIORS at Boston Latin School!

Now, I know I said that the last five or three years have been difficult, but se-

nior year isn't any walk in the park either. All the strategies to achieve success that you have learned throughout your stay here, need to be applied now. This very year. Not to scare anyone, but this is it. This is the year that determines the rest of your life. Halloween was the 31st of October. All the masks, disguises and costumes you wore are now off. Now it's just you, senior year and the shift from childhood to adulthood. It's time to get focused (well at least for the first two terms...jk, please stay focused all year!). Your grades and the decisions you make throughout the whole year will make a difference. Trust me, you don't want to be that kid who gets an acceptance letter from a great college or university, contracts senioritis after second term and come fourth term receives a rejection letter from the same college that accepted you just a couple months before. Not going to lie, but that would suck. As senior class secretary, I am here to try to help you strive this year, but I can't help you if you don't try to help yourself first.

Okay, so I mentioned stress, working hard, etc., but while we are doing all

this hard work, we need to have some fun too. All work and no play is never a good plan, so tell me your ideas! If you want us to have a certain senior event, let me know! As I said in my speech, I am open to all ideas, even if it involves intergalactic warfare or if you just want to have a fun senior karaoke night! Post any of your ideas on the Senior Network Initiative, email me or tell me in person. It's great that we can plan so many fun shindigs and events, but we will need to fundraise, fundraise, fundraise! So if you have any other ideas on how we can make that ka-ching ka-chang, tell Kevin Liang!

"With great power comes great responsibility." Yes, I really did just quote Spiderman, but it's true. We love the power we have now that we are seniors, but we need to use it wisely. No matter what, senior year is going to be amazing. It might be tiring now, but in June when we say "deuces" to the underclassmen (lol) and to the chapter of our lives called childhood, it will all be worth it. The Class of 2012 is destined for greatness, and it all starts with this very moment.

Bonjour the oh-so-infamous, possibly reckless, fresh, misunderstood like Lil' Wayne, Class of 2012! What's going on? First off, let me thank all of you who voted for me and those wonderful people who helped me with my campaign. It really

Cain & Romney, GOP Frontrunners

BY ALICE XIAO, III
ASSISTANT NEW EDITOR

The need for a strong and capable leader grows more and more every day along with the nation's economic uncertainty. The issue over who will lead America is certainly a controversial matter. Will the 2012 presidential elections bring a new leader to the stage? The Grand Old Party candidates are in fierce competition currently with Herman Cain and Mitt Romney in the lead. Closely trailing are Rick Perry, Michele Bachmann and Ron Paul, all of whom are Tea Party favorites.

Herman Cain, a former CEO of a pizza chain and chairman of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City, is currently the most popular Republican. Many people think that he would be able to solve the nation's financial issues because of his strong business background. In fact, he is currently the sole candidate with a concrete financial plan. Dubbed the "9-9-9 plan," it proposes a 9 percent flat tax rate on all business transactions, personal income and national sales tax. It would presumably "expand GDP by two trillion dollars, create six million new jobs...and increase wages by ten percent." Cain's plan, however, has received much criticism. An analysis by the Tax Policy Center based in Washington has shown that if the plan came in effect today, 84 percent of American households' taxes would increase, especially in households

with members that make under 50,000 dollars yearly. Cain responded to this criticism on October 21 with a change, saying he would exempt tax income for people at or below the poverty line. Despite the controversy over his "9-9-9 plan" and little political experience, Cain remains a favorite of the Republican voters.

Another popular candidate whom Massachusetts knows well is former governor, Mitt Romney. Romney's advantage lies in his excellent track record. Like Cain, he is an experienced businessman. Back in 1992, he was CEO of Bain & Company and led it out of financial crisis. He is well-known for his work in the 2002 Winter Olympics, which became a financial success under his guidance. As governor, he eliminated an estimated three billion-dollar deficit by cutting state spending and increasing fees and signed the Massachusetts health care insurance reform law. Romney's greatest disadvantage may be his religion, Mormonism. He has stated in 2007 that "I will put no doctrine of any church above the plain duties of the office and the sovereign authority of the law." Although religious affiliations of presidents are not the largest deciding



THE REPUBLICAN PARTY CANDIDATES

factor of success, there is considerable bias against Mormonism among voters.

Rick Perry, governor of Texas, is another experienced political candidate. Despite his very conservative views on abortion and same-sex marriage, many Republicans refuse to vote for him because he was formerly a Democrat. "Rick Perry shouldn't be attacked just because he was a former Democrat," says Jake Zhu (III). "He switched to the Republican party at a younger age than Ronald Reagan did." Perry, along with many Republicans, is strongly opposed to the federal health care reforms. He and his administration have cut Texas's Medicaid spending in the past. As a result, Texas's uninsured population - 26 percent - was the highest in the United States.

The other Tea Partisans are also forces to be reckoned with. They are on a mission to "fight against government cor-

ruption and tyranny." Michele Bachmann, a US House Representative from Minnesota, was the first woman to ever win the Ames Straw Poll in Iowa. Ron Paul, a Libertarian congressman from Texas, helped with the Tea Party's creation; however, as he is losing popularity, his chances of winning the primary are slim.

Will Barack Obama once again win the American people's hearts and their votes? Despite the many positives in his presidency, the incumbent President has a long way to go for his campaign. Since his induction, he has changed tax policies, health care and has been awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for his international diplomacy. The stimulus package in 2009 that he passed was reported to have saved or created two million jobs. His promise to bring the troops back from Iraq appeals to many Americans. The United States' unemployment rate of 9.1 percent and the loss of its AAA rating, however, casts a dark shadow over his campaign. If Obama wants to win this election, he must explain his mistakes and propose new solutions.

With the Republican primaries looming closer by the day, GOP candidates will have to prove their worth to America. Likewise, Obama will have to point out his accomplishments and keep his promises to stay competitive. As America waits for November 2012, the candidates will be constantly battling their way to the top.

NEWS

"We Are the 99%"



DISILLUSIONED PROTESTERS CROWD THE STREETS OF BOSTON

By **JACOB METZ-LERMAN, II**
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Throughout 2011 the world has experienced hundreds of protests, from the Libyan and Egyptian Revolutions to the riots in Greece and Britain. Perhaps this marks the rise of a new global voice, especially one of young people. Now in the U.S. that same voice has spread.

Recently, in New York City a group of fed up people took to the streets—in this case, Wall Street. The New Yorkers decided to occupy Zuccotti Park in the Wall Street area. This new form of protest includes setting up tents and camping out in the park and protesting during the day. “I thought it was nothing. I thought it was going to collapse on its face but it turned out,” admitted a surprised student occupier. As the days went on, the protest began to grow in strength both in active occupiers and from outside support. But the question was, what are they protesting?

The media struggled with this idea for weeks, and maybe for good reason. The “Occupy Wall Street” protesters have no one leader and have been criticized as having no organization. Yet there is one message that they are united

by: they are protesting what they perceive as corporate power and greed.

Their slogan has become: “We are the 99%” making a reference to the top one percent of people in the United States who hold a vastly disproportionate amount of the country’s wealth. Perhaps it is built into the capitalist system to have a millionaire class, but the protesters bring into question how large this gap between the rich and poor should be. The protesters are fueled by the rise in unemployment and the shaky state of the economy, as well as the tax cuts for the rich. Picket signs are everywhere and, like the protests themselves, have quickly spread across the internet with #occupyboston and #occupywallstreet. The signs depict all kinds of views: “If crime doesn’t pay then why do corporations have so much money?”, “Count voices not votes”, “We are too big to fail!” or “Too big to fail is too big to exist”, simply just “jobs” and the common chant, “We are unstoppable, another world is possible!”

The protests, although not huge in size, have quickly spread throughout the country. One of the largest protests is in Boston where people are occupying Dewey Square outside South Station in the financial district downtown. Being

a college town, “Occupy Boston” has gained support from many of the colleges throughout the city. Yet there is no lack of older people among the protesters. Young or old, college educated or not, homeless or home owning, “around 500 on a good day” show up, proudly explained Greg an active member of the protest.

The occupations have been strongly criticized for their lack of organization and leadership. All decisions are made by the group as a whole during their “General Assembly” which meets each night at 7:00, and sometimes those decisions just are forsaken. One occupier was asked by a reporter if he goes to the “GA’s”, and he replied, “I do sometimes, I go to most of them, that’s my one big problem with this [protest]. I mean, I think there should be some leadership, you know?” Disagreements are common among the protesters often concerning how to run the occupation, and some like Stephen support the idea of a leader.

Yet others such as Emily, found chanting “This is what democracy looks like!” in the Boston protests, loves the idea of no leadership. “No, I think [having] no leadership is really working. We have leaders at different times, we will

have a time when we really need someone who is good at this and so they are a leaders, then later something else needs to be done and we do that. People have different strengths and I think it is really effective.” The protests have been successful in making different groups within the occupation. As Greg, yet another occupier described, they have set up different tents or committees for organizational purposes. So far they have made a medical tent, media tent, spiritual tent which does meditation and stretching in the mornings, a food table, a facilitation group, a outreach table that has been successfully working to get unions to support the occupations, and logistics which works on making sure everyone has a place to sleep and built “main street” a cardboard and wooden walkway through the crowd of tents. “We are doing pretty well for how all this is organized,” said Greg.

Where the protests are going and what we will see from them is still unclear. But what the protest are accomplishing is getting the message out, said Stephen, “It’s about time someone stood up and did something”. Except in this case they intend to sit down in order to stand up for themselves.

Israeli Soldier Exchanged for 1000 Palestinians

By **B. KIM, I**
NEWS EDITOR

In a long and drawn out debate on what to do with captured Israeli soldier Gilad Shalit, action has finally been taken after over five years of imprisonment. The exchange agreed upon between Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu and the terrorist group Hamas called for the release of more than 1,000 Palestinian prisoners, many of whom had life sentences for killing Israelis in bombings and attacks. To outsiders of Israel, this might seem like a terrible price to pay, and one life of a soldier might not seem worth it. So the question is, why? Why are

Israelis all over the country celebrating the return of Shalit in exchange for the release of 1,000 dangerous prisoners from jail?

Since Israel is a war-torn country, all eighteen-year-olds are required to join the military after graduating high school, with a promise from the country stating its obligation to protect its citizens and soldiers who are defending the country. When a video of the living Shalit was released to Israel from Hamas in 2009 (in exchange for twenty female Palestinian prisoners), the citizens gave Netanyahu no choice but to act on the country’s promises and do everything possible to return the prisoner home alive. Netanyahu, as Israel’s

Prime Minister, has stated that it was his duty “to bring home every soldier who is sent to protect our citizens.”

For many Israeli families, the idea of a soldier in captivity hits very close to home, since all of the parents have dealt with seeing their children go off to war and at one point every young adult has been in the same position as Shalit, a soldier.

In 2010, a twelve-day march was staged by Gilad’s father, in which he was accompanied by tens of thousands of supporters as a call to action for the country to do something about his kidnapped son. Shalit’s family had also stayed in a tent outside of the Prime Minister’s house in

protest for the last five years.

The problem of the deal does not end here. Hamas came to the realization that they would be able to get their prisoners released from Israeli jails by capturing soldiers. Thus, Hamas has already stated that they will take more Israeli hostages in the future to get back the remaining 5,000 Palestinians through trades. Israel, however, is not regretful of their pricy bargain. As Nahum Barnea, a columnist for the Tel Aviv newspaper Yedioth Ahronoth, said, “To let him die in captivity is unacceptable. It does not meet the minimum conditions of the Israeli tribe.”

them. I think the American people will run them out of town,” he said. “I would love nothing more than to see Congress act so aggressively that I can’t campaign against them as a do-nothing Congress.”

It remains to be seen if Congress and the President will be able to act in a bipartisan manner to pull Americans out of this prolonged economic downturn.

OBAMA'S JOBS ACT

Continued from page 1

85 percent of those polled were in favor of providing tax cuts for small businesses, 72 percent for providing additional funds to public works projects and 75 percent for hiring teachers, police officers and firefighters.

In the President’s address to a joint session of Congress where he introduced

the bill, he repeatedly pressed both Democrats and Republicans to “pass this bill right away.” So far, that has not happened. The Senate voted down the bill on October 11, and now supporters will try to get the bill passed in pieces. President Obama and members of his administration have been touring the nation for the past few weeks, trying to garner more support for his bill.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

A Job Well Done

By JOHN ZHANG, VI
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

An apple prompted Isaac Newton to develop the theory of gravity. A golden apple started the Trojan War. So it is no surprise that another great era would be started by Steve's Apple. Steve Jobs (born Steven Paul Jobs) was an entrepreneur, CEO and founder of Apple Inc., founder of Pixar Animation Studios and an innovator for the future. Jobs passed away peacefully on October 15 at the age of 56, surrounded by his family. Jobs had been battling pancreatic cancer for several years before it finally claimed his life. While the world mourns the passing of Apple's former CEO, Jobs' legacy continues in the inventions and innovations that have influenced the way we live today.

Steve Jobs was born on February 24, 1955, to Joanne Simpson and Abdulfattah Jandali, who gave Jobs up for adoption. Jobs was raised by his stepparents, Clara and Paul Jobs, in California's Silicon Valley. From an early age, Jobs was inspired by his father, Paul, a machinist and Coast Guard veteran, to develop an interest in mechanics that he kept until his death. As a child, Jobs did very well in school, but was a disobedient prankster who had to be bribed by his teachers to study. While attending high school, Jobs met Steve

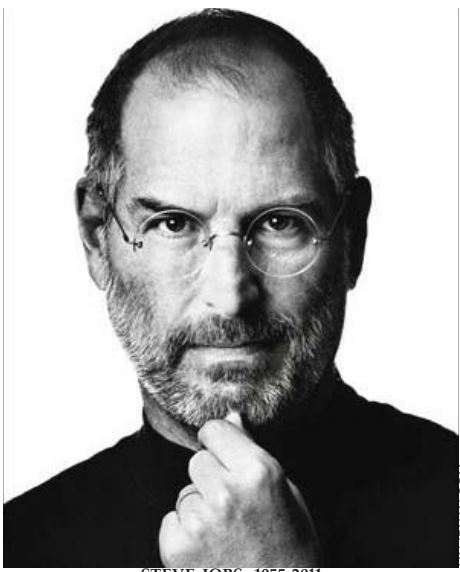
Wozniak, and the two developed a strong relationship. They would go on to co-found Apple Inc. After high school, Jobs enrolled in Reed College but dropped out after six months. Upon dropping out, Jobs initially worked for the video game company Atari, designing video games, and he spent a few months in India where he adopted the Buddhist faith. In 1976, Jobs and Wozniak started Apple Computer in Jobs' garage. The rest is history.

Jobs and Wozniak revolutionized computing by creating a computer that was compact and intuitive in its design, as well as affordable to the average consumer. The first computer they sold, the Apple I, was priced at \$666.66 and netted them a profit of \$774,000. The second model, cleverly named the Apple II, brought them a sales increase of 700 percent, which earned them a profit of 139 million dollars. Apple had become a huge success almost immediately, but in the ensuing years Apple would experience a few major setbacks before getting back on its feet and rising once again to the top.

After experiencing drops in sales, the company decided that Jobs was holding the company back, and Jobs resigned as CEO of Apple. After leaving the company, Jobs started another tech company called NeXT, Inc. Although NeXT, Inc. turned out to be a flop, it

was during this brief hiatus from Apple that Jobs purchased a modest film and animation company from George Lucas. The animation company would go on to become Pixar Animation Studios, which is credited with some of the most successful and award-winning films of the past few decades including Toy Story and Up. In 1997, Apple bought NeXT, Inc., and Jobs returned to his position as CEO. Jobs then continued to lead Apple in innovation that would later define the success of the company.

Steve was a pioneer in the world of modern technology and helped better our lives with his passion for technology and his attention to detail. Even if you do not use Apple products, your life is probably still influenced in one way or another by Jobs' genius. Everything from touch screen technology to digital music was popularized by Steve Jobs. From the release of the first iPhone to the success of iTunes, Apple has exceeded all expectations in-between. It is hard to imagine a world without Apple, but it was only four years ago when the first iPhone made its debut. In the short span of time since then, the product that he created has sold, according to Jobs, more than 100 million units. In fact, many people learned of his death on a product that he created. From its humble beginnings in the garage of



STEVE JOBS, 1955-2011

two college kids, Apple has gone on to revolutionize the 20th and 21st centuries. Not only did Steve Jobs dare to "think differently," he also created products that define modern technology. Future generations will read in their textbooks about how one man was able to change the world with his ideas. Mona Simpson, Steve Jobs' biological sister, reported his last words to be "Oh wow. Oh wow. Oh wow." Needless to say, we were all surprised that he passed away so early in life. But the world Steve Jobs left behind is certainly better, thanks to him.

Thank You, Dennis Ritchie

By ANTON XUE, IV
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

While Steve Jobs's death left the nation and technology enthusiasts in sorrow, the lesser known Dennis Ritchie did not receive as much media coverage despite his equally significant, if not more important, contribution to the technological world of today.

Dennis Ritchie was found dead on October 12, 2011 at his home in Berkeley Heights, New Jersey. He was 70 years old. Although the exact circumstances of his death are currently unknown, Ritchie was said to be in poor health in his final years, and his treatment for prostate cancer may have been a contributing factor to his unfortunate death.

Why is Dennis Ritchie important? Simply put, Ritchie has left behind the C Programming Language and the UNIX Operating System. While these may not seem as impressive next to Steve Jobs's legacy of sleek, well-designed and aesthetic Apple products, these two developments are the base of all modern technology, greatly affecting our lives even today.

A programming language is an artificial language that allows communication with the computer, allowing it to perform tasks such as adding two numbers together. It can manage hardware, such as

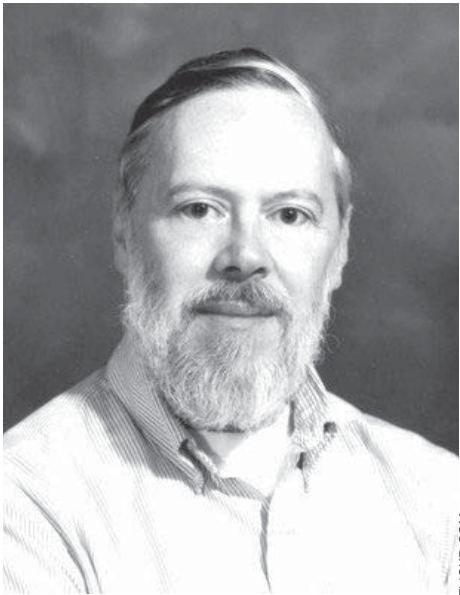
monitors and video cameras, and software, such as your favorite computer game or Microsoft Word. The operating system also makes it possible to have a User Interface (UI) so that you can perform seemingly simple actions on your computer, like clicking on a desktop icon with your mouse. Without an operating system, it would be very difficult to perform such tasks on a computer.

During the dark ages of the '60s, when computers clogged up entire rooms and no standard model for a computer existed, every computer ran its own software and thus, was not able to communicate with each other—that is, until Dr. Dennis Ritchie came along and co-developed the C Programming Language with his colleague, Ken Thompson. The creation of the C Programming Language gave birth to the concept of Open Systems. This combined portability with interoperability, allowing users to port and transfer data between computers as well as to install software onto their computers. Ritchie and Thompson were quick to use this feature in the UNIX Operating System that was built in the C language.

The development of the UNIX Operating System was one of the most revolutionary advancements in the world of computer technology and still makes an impact on our lives today. UNIX was

intended to be a multi-platform operating system that could be commercially sold and distributed. It was widely implemented in computers and devices at the time. Suddenly, computers could communicate with each other now that there was a standard operating system in use. This operating system was so effective that many derivatives were later made from it, such as Linux and even some versions of the Mac OSX. Today, Ritchie's creation dominates our lives, possibly even more so than Steve Jobs's. UNIX can be found in commonly used electronics such as cellphones and computers and even in some refrigerators!

Ritchie and Thompson received many prestigious awards for their developments. They jointly received the Turing Award in 1983 for "their development of generic operating systems theory and specifically for the implementation of the operating system." The two also received the IEEE Richard W. Hamming Medal in 1990 for "the origination of the UNIX operating system and the C Programming Language." On April 21, 1999, Ritchie and Thompson both received the National Medal of Technology of 1998 from President Bill Clinton for their groundbreaking work in the development of the C language and UNIX operating system that "led to enormous advances in computer



DENNIS RITCHIE, 1941-2011

hardware, software and networking systems and stimulated growth of an entire industry, thereby enhancing American leadership in the Information Age."

While Ritchie did not make as much of a media splash as Jobs did in the computer world, his work is almost equal to that of Jobs in terms of magnitude. Without Ritchie, there would be no Jobs.

Thank you, Dennis Ritchie, for bringing us a step forward into the technology age.

Vampire Bacteria

By ANDREW QUINN, I
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Micavibrio aeruginosavorus, a bacteria first discovered in wastewater nearly 30 years ago, has come under scrutiny by two biologists, Martin Wu and Zhang Wang, at the University of Virginia. The bacteria has an unusual method of getting food from its environment; it attacks and eats other bacteria.

The genome of this "cannibal bacteria" contains all the DNA that codes the instructions which allow the cell to live and function. It has been decoded by Wu and Wang and is being investigated

for the possibilities of genetic engineering.

Since the DNA of a cell is essentially its blueprint, Wu and Wang reason that the information telling this specific bacteria to attack and eat its prey must be in there somewhere—everything from how it latches onto other cells to suck their nutrients out, to how it knows what cells to attack in the first place.

The interesting part is that by using genetic engineering, scientists do not need to limit themselves to just understanding how M. aeruginosavorus does its job; they can actually change the DNA and make new bacteria with small but key

differences from the original.

In a few years, doctors hope to prescribe specialized strands of M. aeruginosavorus, instead of multiple antibiotics, to treat diseases such as pneumonia. This is preferred since some bacteria can develop resistance to the antibiotics, which means that over a few years or even months, an infection may no longer be treated with that antibiotic. Having the bacteria eaten by the M. aeruginosavorus, on the other hand, eliminates this problem since bacteria cannot evolve as quickly against predatory bacteria.

If this sounds familiar, it should. The plot of the movie, *I Am Legend*,

revolves around a man-made virus developed to cure cancer. There is little reason, however, to worry about the M. aeruginosavorus, since in reality, bacteria and other living organisms undergo evolution painstakingly slowly. There is little chance of a new generation of bacteria suddenly acquiring a mutation that makes it target human cells. There are thousands of beneficial bacteria inside the human body and over tens of thousands of years, these bacteria have undergone no mutations that make them harmful to humans. So while apocalyptic viruses are reserved for science fiction, the benefits of M. aeruginosavorus are very real.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

BF3 vs. MW3

A Global Disaster



By **ROGER LU, I**
ASSISTANT COPY EDITOR

Since Activision’s “Call of Duty 4: Modern Warfare” spectacularly burst onto the scene in 2007, the Call of Duty franchise has established itself as the gold-standard in the multi-player first-person shooter genre of video games. Electronic Arts (EA), however, has been steadily taking back ground with its Battlefield series. “Battlefield 3” was recently released on October 25 as EA’s direct challenge to Call of Duty.

The appeal of “Battlefield 3” has always been its scale. The sprawling maps, coupled with the array vehicles, make for epic gameplay. The trademarks of the Battlefield series have always been the pulse-pounding battles between tanks, helicopters and jets. “Battlefield 3” marks a strong return to form, as EA gives players huge maps with which to play, as well as some of the latest toys of modern militaries, including the multi-million dollar F/A 18 Super Hornet jet.

From an infantry perspective, “Battlefield 3” is not lacking. With an updated version of the Frostbite game engine introduced in “Battlefield: Bad Company,” the free-form destructibility of buildings and bunkers is brought back with some stunning physics. Players can launch rockets into houses and see the results. Doors are splintered, concrete is shattered and walls are pounded into dust. The destructible terrain feature of the Frostbite 2.0 engine makes sure that any cover a player takes is only temporary. Gamers accustomed to “camping” in houses, waiting for unsuspecting prey to stumble in, will find themselves in rubble after a few airstrikes.

Even with all these features, is “Battlefield 3” a worthy contestant to the crown held by Call of Duty? Or is it fated to be another imitator like EA’s



2010 failure, the “Medal of Honor” reboot?

Activision’s latest iteration of the Call of Duty franchise, “Call of Duty: Modern Warfare 3” has been surrounded by a huge amount of hype, well-matching that of “Battlefield 3’s” own massive advertising campaign.

One particularly prickly point of contention for fans of the franchise is the apparent lack of graphical improvement in visuals. Despite the claim that they are using an updated engine, to most gamers the lackluster explosions and physics presented in “Modern Warfare 3” seem to be copied and pasted from “Modern Warfare 2.” Like previous titles in the series, “Modern Warfare 3” also lacks any vehicular gameplay; instead they have brought back killstreaks. Unlike “Battlefield 3’s” vehicles, where players can barrel-roll in jets as long as they please, “Modern Warfare 3’s” killstreaks allow players to pilot choppers and planes for a paltry few minutes at most. And this is only after players have accumulated enough consecutive kills in one life.

This emphasizes the key differences between the two franchises. Battlefield has always been about massive maps and coordinated strikes, with different playable classes like “Medic,” “Assault” and “Recon,” supporting each other in tandem. Call of Duty, however, has been the game of choice for the lone-wolf player, with its cramped maps and reflex-speed gameplay. “Battlefield 3” seems to bring more to the table, in terms of playable vehicles, huge maps and team-dynamics, yet “Modern Warfare 3,” though following the formula of killstreaks, is still a heavy-hitter. Its legions of followers testify to the success of their gameplay features. To me, “Battlefield 3” is the better choice, but to each his or her own.

By **ALEX YUAN, III**
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Thailand has recently suffered one of the most severe floods in recent memory, with floodwater threatening even the capital of Bangkok. The flood has claimed over 300 lives and has cost billions of dollars in damages. At one point, over a third of the country was submerged. A grave humanitarian crisis looms as people try to rebuild their lives. They have much more to rebuild as well. Thailand is the location of some of the largest manufacturing plants of electronics and other technology goods.

The recent floods have swamped many industrial plants, damaging some beyond repair and affecting companies, manufacturers and consumers worldwide. Among the hardest hit are manufacturers of hard drives and other computer components, such as memory chips and semiconductors. 25 percent of the world’s hard drives are supplied by Thailand, the world’s second largest producer. Western Digital, the largest manufacturer of hard drives, which produces 33 percent of the world’s supply, and Seagate Technology, another top manufacturer, have predicted up to a 40 percent drop in production. Lenovo, Samsung and Acer have also said that the flooding will lower PC and computer component production. While there is a four to six weeks’ supply of hard drives left, PC sales could be impacted starting from the upcoming important holiday season and last to the first quarter of 2012 if the shortage continues.

The flood has also hurt the automotive industry. Honda’s plant in Thailand, which produces approximately 240,000 automobiles a year, has been submerged, and Toyota has shut down its factories. Both companies, up until now, have produced automobiles parts. The effects of the factory closures in Thailand have even been felt in the United States; major automotive manufacturers have curtailed production due to a shortage of parts and are now looking to factories in other countries to try and make up some of the losses they have suffered.

Other major electronic companies have not been spared either. Nikon Corporation, which manufactures cameras and semiconductors, had their main camera production plant

in Thailand flooded with over six feet of water. This factory produces Nikon’s low to mid-range digital single-lens reflex (DSLR) cameras, which account for over 90 percent of their DSLR production, as well as a whole slew of lenses for those cameras. Even worse, the factory may be damaged beyond repair. Canon Incorporated also announced that it would be moving its inkjet printer production to Vietnam, while Sony camera factories have also been flooded.

There are around 350 Japanese companies with factories in Thailand, and for them this year has been especially rough. The combination of earthquake, tsunami and nuclear disaster in March completely stopped production in many Japanese plants for months. Coupled with a down economy, the floods could not have come at a worse time.

What does this mean for you? Well, it definitely means that prices of electronics will go up. If shortages continue, they will become scarce as well. A shortage of hard drives and computer components would mean that the supply of computers for the holiday season in November and December will be reduced, since hard drives are necessary to all computers. It might even mean that you will not be able to buy the computer or computer components you wanted for Christmas, or you will have to pay much more. Computer companies will suffer large losses if they are not able to make enough money due to shortages.

Unless you are looking to buy professional high-end cameras (which are not made in Thailand), now would be better than later for purchasing products such as a Nikon DSLR and/or lens. With their factory submerged, it is unknown when Nikon can restart production of their cameras, and in the meantime, surplus supplies will continue to thin, as prices keep rising dramatically.



FLOOD SUBMERGES OVER A THIRD OF THAILAND

Future of Google+

By **JESSICA TANG, I**
ASSISTANT SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY EDITOR

Now that Google+ has come into the scene, what will become of the culture that is social networking? Google+, launched in late June, became the fastest growing website ever after it received 25 million users in less than one month since its public release. Considering this with the fact that Facebook took around three years to reach the same number and Twitter two and a half years, we must admit that Google+ might just offer some pretty serious competition.

Why is Google+ garnering so much attention? It may be that the recently launched site has been attracting Facebook users who will not necessarily renounce their allegiance to Google+’s main rival. Google+ has certain features, ranging from greater ease of use to safer content sharing, that are unique and provide another reason for its success.

One of the greatest advantages

Google+ has over the other social networks is that, as a part of Google Inc., it can be integrated with the wide range of other Google services including Gmail, Google Docs and the massive search engine itself. After being created, a user’s Google+ account becomes attached to the navigation bar at the top of almost all Google products. This feature allows users to use other Google products without ever having to leave the Google service they are using at that particular time. This convenience is certainly a plus that cannot be offered by any other social networking service out there. Google+ has also developed a better way for users to manage their friends with the “Circles” concept. After creating an account, users can sort their contacts into different groups, such as friends, family, acquaintances, following and others that they can add themselves. This allows a certain flexibility and privacy that, in Google’s words, makes “sharing on the web more like sharing in real life.” What is shared in one circle is not shared

with another, unless the user chooses to do so. This makes it much easier for users to maintain separate professional and personal profiles, a bonus in a world where lack of privacy is becoming an increasing issue. Although Facebook also has a “Groups” feature that allows users to form groups, this feature is an add-on and is not as integrated into the service like Google+’s.

It might seem like there has been too much focus on the differences between Google+ and Facebook, but only by comparing the two can we see what users are looking for in a social networking website. A key issue that must be highlighted is security. Facebook is known for its misuse of their users’ personal data; users are forced to make certain information, such as name, profile picture, gender and networks, public to everyone and cannot delete their accounts in any way. With Google+, on the other hand, users can take out anything they have put into Google+ with a tool called “Data Libera-

tion.” There are additional features that might help users feel more secure about sharing their information on the Internet. Google+ allows users to select what information is shared with which circle of contacts. More importantly, users can control the spread of their information with the ability to disable their comments and the option for others to share or re-share their posts. Whenever a user tags another in a photo, the latter also gets notified about this action and is able to view the photo and the album it is in.

There are many new parts to Google+, including Stream, Hangouts, Sparks, Photos, Huddle and much, much more. Each feature stems from an idea that may or may not be original, but each is also presented in a new and even more innovative way. What will the future of Google+ and the social networking culture look like? It is impossible to tell now, but in the words of Ben Parr, Editor-at-Large of Mashable, “Google+ is a bold and dramatic attempt at social...[it] is solid.”

FORUM

What Good Are the SATs?

By **MICHAEL SITCAWICH, II**
STAFF WRITER

Each year nationwide, after preparing vigorously for many months, over one million students take the SAT Reasoning Test, an exam that weighs heavily in the college admission process. The significance of this test has long been debated by both students and educators. Some argue that it is unjust for one test to decide the academic future of one individual. Others dispute that it is a practical way to measure the intellect of each college-bound student.

In September, several students from Long Island, New York were arrested for allegedly taking part in an SAT “cheating ring.” They were accused of having hired Samuel Eshaghoff, a college student, to take the test for them, rather than taking it themselves. Eshaghoff reportedly presented a false ID to test officials, thereby directly violating federal law. The scandal surfaced after rumors of cheating came to the attention of faculty members in Great Neck North High School, the school attended by the students who hired him. If condemned, Eshaghoff may face a maximum of four years in prison. The high school students will likely face misdemeanor charges.

There is no debating that the actions of Eshaghoff and the six students were wrong. Cheating of any kind is intolerable, and cheating on a test with such a profound impact on every hopeful high school student is a slap in the face of justice. If the offenders had gotten away with the crime, more qualified and more deserving college candidates

would have been deprived of better college opportunities. Unwitting universities would have accepted students unworthy of being on their prestigious campuses.

The case does, however, shed some light on the strenuous demands of the college process. Instead of anticipating college life, students are burdened by such great expectations that the college application process has been reduced to nothing more than a stressful procedure that blemishes the joy of finishing of high school. Students are preoccupied enough trying to balance grades, extracurricular activities and college applications in their four years of high school. They do not need more pressure. Add to this the SAT, a short test which every student is coerced into preparing for, but which does not even evaluate him or her on all the subjects taught in school.

Some argue that the SAT is an assessment of a student’s “natural intelligence.” In a sense, this is true. As one cannot study specifically what will be on the test, those who score higher than others presumably have a wider range of knowledge, but only in the areas covered by the test. The test does not evaluate the students on subjects



SAT, BETTER KNOWN AS STUDENTS’ AGONY TEST

which may be their forte. It does not encompass all the capabilities of its takers. One may have talent in writing, but another may have a predilection for science, yet the SAT does not test knowledge in the sciences. It does not even take into consideration the fact that the student may have simply have underperformed that day due to pressure. A university looking for a balanced pupil or one strong in a specific subject will find that students’ grades serve as a much better indicator than a single, unfair test does.

Perhaps some of the students from Great Neck North High School were feeling too much pressure as they

tried to balance decent grades and time-consuming extracurricular activities. Too much stress accumulated, and they sought the easy route. Perhaps they were aware of their weaknesses in the limited scope of SAT, or, perhaps, they simply had the selfish desire to secure a high score on that odious test. Regardless of the reasoning behind it, there is no excuse for cheating, and those arrested in New York well deserve their punishments. Their crimes, however, will hopefully further illustrate that not only is the SAT a faulty way to evaluate students, it places too much pressure on students already juggling too many responsibilities.

Books Don’t Break

By **TERRY NI, V**
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

A friend of mine recently bought a Barnes & Noble Nook. Another friend does all her reading on an Amazon Kindle. While I have to wait a month for a book to be shipped from library to library until it gets to Boston Latin School, another classmate downloads the exact same book within seconds onto her reader. The hype about e-books and e-readers is ever increasing. They are fast, convenient and sleek. Just as computers replaced typewriters, perhaps one day e-book readers will render books obsolete. New electronic devices are constantly emerging. For example, Amazon just recently revealed a new line of Kindles, which will start to be shipped to stores in mid-November.

Unlike e-books, real books are tangible and reliable. After all, if an electronic device is dropped by accident, only luck decides whether or not the information within survives. Books do not have such a problem. If a book falls on the floor, there’s no need to worry about pages disappearing. Books are also much more secure than readers. Books can’t be hacked. People could experience e-book reader hacking.

It is true that library processing is slower. The anticipation and waiting, however, provide half the fun. When my book arrives a month after I reserve it, I am able to slowly devour and relish every page. Humans tend to want more of what they can’t have. If obtain-

ing books becomes too simple, readers will be less likely to cherish those works. Even though stacks of books may be heavy and inconvenient, they allow readers to actually touch paper. It captures a definite feeling that flicking a screen cannot. As a reader absorbs the ideas of a writer when he or she turns each page, the mind better captures information on a page than on a screen.

After a book is in one’s hand, it is not much harder to use than an e-reader.

Opening a book is the equivalent to turning a device on. Flipping a page is similar to sliding a finger across the screen. Why bother spending hundreds of dollars to buy a thin, fragile device when a book can easily be borrowed from a library at no cost?

For those who say that reading from an electronic device is less tiring than reading from a book, both actions actually require the same amount of brainpower.

Switching to the “more convenient” e-reader, therefore, really does not make much difference. One is only deprived of the comfort and security of a book in one’s hands.

To paper lovers, there is no need to worry. The option of checking books out from a library will remain for years to come. As everyday items are replaced and new inventions appear, a comforting traditional feeling might need to be sacrificed. Sometimes, however, “in with the new” does not always have to end in “out with the old.” Books will always have their place in society.



NO RE-KINDLING HERE

A Cure for “Mondays”

By **AURELIA PAQUETTE, II**
STAFF WRITER

You wake up at 6:00 AM. You go to school until 2:15 PM and then probably spend one or two more hours at school doing extracurricular activities. As of right now, you have had an 11-hour day, excluding the time you spent in transit and fulfilling any other responsibilities you might have.

According to this schedule, you could theoretically get enough sleep. Quite a few of my friends, however, despite being conscientious students, slept for less than four hours each night during the recent end-of-term exams.

Finally, the weekend comes. Perhaps you do your household chores on Saturday, and then you devote most of your time on Sunday towards homework. All of a sudden, it’s Monday, you wake up at 6:00 AM, and you didn’t get enough sleep over the weekend to compensate for the dearth of it during the week.

The five-day workweek, a liberal concept instituted by Henry Ford (of Ford Auto Company) in 1926 to improve his workers’ productivity, has ceased to make sense. The pressure placed on the youths of today requires them to participate in multiple extracurricular activities and do mountains of homework in order to be competitive in their college applications. Plus, the pressure on adults to work harder in this global economy has everyone working beyond capacity.

Since the broad cultural trend of expecting people to do more than they can doesn’t seem to be disappearing, I propose not to eradicate these trends but to mitigate them instead. Work overtime on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and

Friday, but then still have your weekend. Just get rid of Monday altogether. Instead of having a longer weekend, we’ll have a shorter workweek.

Most months would have 30 days, separated into five weeks. There would be 60 weeks, plus five days, per year. Thus, there would be 16 more weekend days per year.

To make up for the increase in weekend days, the school year would remain in session for longer periods of time. Summer vacation would be shorter, but students would have more time off during the school year as there would be shorter stretches of time between their weekends. Students would be more productive because they would be learning over longer periods of time, and their energetic minds would be able to retain more information.

A six-day week would mean more leisure time for adult workers too. It would mean greater productivity as well. In his 12 years of productivity experiments, Ford found that workers were less productive after working for 40 hours in a week and that working at 60 hours per week did not increase productivity from 40 hours per week. Because of the new technology and pressures from our modern society, even if workers have 40-hour workweeks, they are actually working more than that. Workers are taxing their well-being and effectiveness at work. Breaks and vacations increase productivity and morale, and this gives room for peoples’ minds to come up with creative new solutions. So for the student, the teacher, the low-level worker, the manager, the child and the parent, let’s have a six-day week. Who likes Mondays anyway?

FORUM

Death Penalty in Need of Reform

By ESHE SHERLEY, I
STAFF WRITER

The old death penalty controversy was once again stirred up on September 21, when Troy Davis was executed. Even after his death, there is controversy over the validity of the case against him.

The story is that, in 1989, Troy Davis murdered police officer Mark MacPhail in Savannah, Georgia. Many of the people who testified against him recanted their earlier statements in signed affidavits, stating that the police had coerced them into testifying.

So what does this case mean in the broader debate on the death penalty? Of course, one can always start with an argument about morality. Many say that it is immoral to kill other people. This is a flawed argument. The Bible, which many people base their morals on, can be interpreted to have many different stances on this issue. In fact, the Bible preaches both “an eye for an eye” and forgiveness in the face of the sins of another.

Even if the Bible’s messages are clear, thinking that one’s morals are better than another person’s is unjust. On the other hand, most people simply support the death penalty because they feel as if some just deserve this punishment.

The question is, who gets to decide who “deserves” the death penalty? Our

society is too complex for one authority to make such a decision. This question, however, is more theoretical than practical, at least in America. Alleged terrorist, Anwar al-Awlaki was just killed by a U.S. drone strike several weeks ago despite being a US citizen.

Is it the role of the state to kill its citizens? I say no, absolutely not. When the United States kills its own citizens, our democracy is put on the level of the countries we publicly renounce. As a US citizen, I am not comfortable with that.

People say our country is different. It is not an oppressive regime. In America, everyone gets a fair trial before they are sentenced. Not quite. When black people are 38 percent more likely to be sentenced to the death penalty than any other defendant, and race can be pinpointed as an “aggravating factor” in jury trials, how is our system fair? When minorities on death row are disproportionately represented, can we call the decision-making process just? We can’t—not unless the counter-argument is that black people are inherently more likely to violently murder others.

If none of these reasons matter to you, this one should. Mistakes. We all make them, our justice system included. Davis’s case is a good example of this. If his whole case was based on witness testimony that was later recanted, can we be



TROY DAVIS, EXECUTED FOR MURDER

sure that Davis is guilty?

Already, we have examples of people on death row being exonerated by DNA evidence, and people being posthumously acquitted of their crimes. In America, we like to think that judges evaluate guilt and innocence by the standard of “beyond a reasonable doubt,” but we all know we can never be too sure. Having the death penalty means that the United States sometimes inadvertently kills innocent people. We all make mistakes, but I’m not willing to make mistakes with peoples’ lives.

People Will Vote on “Personhood”

By NAOMI LEONARD, I
FORUM EDITOR

It's been 38 years since Roe vs. Wade, but the controversy over abortion is far from over. Usually this debate simply involves picket lines and clever slogans, but now it's gone one step further. This month in Mississippi, citizens will be able to vote on the Personhood Amendment. This amendment first popped up in Colorado, where it was voted down, but in Mississippi, it has gained an unprecedented amount of supporters. It has

questions – the same questions that come up in every abortion debate: What about cases of rape? What if the abortion was the only way to save the mother's life? Would it still be considered murder? The answer is yes. If a doctor performs an abortion in an attempt to save a woman’s life, he or she could legally be charged with murder.

One of the strange things about the Personhood Amendment is that it would technically label frozen fertilized embryos as people too. After a woman undergoes insemination, many fertilized embryos

months old?

Pro-life advocates in the state say that raising these questions is just a scare tactic on the part of pro-choice supporters. If you go to the Personhood Movement’s website, however, you’ll find scare tactics on a whole other level. There are a lot of articles about eugenics and no shortage of ads comparing abortion to slavery and genocide. Even including all this, the site itself is pretty tame. Though its articles are supportive of the pro-life view, they are written formally and aren't blatantly offensive. The links on their site are another story. By clicking through one link you are taken to a site that is against partial birth abortions. Partial birth abortions are one of the most hotly contested issues in the abortion debate. As its name would imply, it involves partially giving birth to a baby after two trimesters (when it would feasibly be able to live outside of the womb) and sucking its brains out before it is fully birthed. This is an issue that seems to have everyone with a heart, soul or preferably both, against it. In spite of this, the website generalizes it to be something that all pro-choice advocates condone, saying it is an issue that "Hillary, Hollywood, Homosexuals and Humanists support."

It is not surprising that the Amendment found so many supporters in Mississippi, a state in which only 0.2 percent of all the abortions in the United States are performed. If the legality of abortion is decided state by state, then the country will undoubtedly divide into liberal states in which abortion is legal and conservative ones in which it is not. In fact, the Personhood Movement is currently going on in 14 states. Some might take to the movement as Mississippi has, but some might not. If it is to pass in any state, however, lawmakers need to clarify several provisions and rethink quite a few others. Its supporters need to also rethink the tactics they're using to further their cause. It will be interesting to see this play out as part of the larger abortion debate in the nation. However, my guess is, it will never win in Massachusetts.



PERSONHOOD ADVOCATES WOULD HAVE YOU BELIEVE PRO-CHOICE PEOPLE HATE BABIES

also been reported that the amendment will be on the ballot in many other states in the future.

The Personhood Amendment isn’t simply against abortion. The Amendment states that life begins at “the moment of fertilization, cloning or the functional equivalent thereof.” This wording is vague to say the least and inspires many

are leftover. If this law passes, destroying these inert cells would be considered homicide, so even unused embryos will have to remain in storage forever. These new laws raise fascinating questions. If all fertilized embryos are considered people, will districts with cryogen banks suddenly increase in population? In Mississippi, will the voting age now be 17 years and three

Omnipotent
He-Wolf

Dear Hewolf,

My husband of three episodes and I are getting divorced. People are really angry at me, but what was I supposed to do? His storyline got pretty boring. And I don’t know why he was so sad. Didn’t the producers tell him that he was only going to make a guest appearance? Anyways I was wondering how to lose weight from my butt?

- The famous sister

Dear famous sister,

Have you tried actually working out? Walking down red carpets doesn’t really count as cardio. Oprah has been known to only eat pistachios when on a diet. And she’s sorta thin, right? But honey, you really shouldn’t even bother trying to lose weight from there; it’s what made you famous in the first place.

-Hewolf

Dear Hewolf,

My baby’s daddy won’t own up. He told me he loved me, and kept calling me his “baby, baby, baby ooh” but apparently he isn’t willing to care of his legit baby. Legit, this is not okay. I don’t deserve this right now! During his concert, I knew he was looking at me the whole time and he didn’t even realize any other girls were in the crowd. How do I prove that he’s the father?

- Girl who needs attention

Dear girl who needs attention,

I think that more blogging and television appearances will surely help your case. I heard Maury is willing to help. You know what they say, Never Say Never to a paternity test! Also try sending him pictures of your baby! A good guilt trip should bring him to his senses. Hopefully he doesn’t have some witch of a girlfriend.

- Hewolf

Dear Hewolf,

I made this commercial with my friend, and just because he smoked a cigarette, there’s now all this controversy. I’m not saying smoking is hip and cool! I just wanted young people to think I’m hip and cool! Also these three ladies have said that I sexually harassed them. But they pinkie-promised me that they wouldn’t tell anyone! I’m sort of in a really important race right now. I don’t know what to do! Help me Hewolf!

- Godfather of Pizza

Dear GOP,

Maybe you should stick to what you know. Leader of one free world is a far cry from the head of an unheard-of pizza chain. Stick to what you know. Maybe try becoming the head manager of a respectable pizza chain? There’s a Dominos in Roslindale that has a help wanted sign out front!

- Hewolf

FORUM

Will Occupy Effect Change?



Yes

By MING YING, V
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

They come to protest a disproportionate share of power and wealth by the American elite class. Hundreds of citizens from various backgrounds, deprived of employment or housing in the recent financial market meltdown, have responded. Down at Zuccotti Park, the heart of this national movement, hundreds of young people are zeroing in on the deeper causes of our nation’s woeful economy, afflicted by deficits and unemployment. Demonstrators are aiming their sights on the bailed-out banks that are now foreclosing the houses of the very taxpayers who funded those bailouts. With deep resentment, they march past homes of affluent financiers, who profited even as the most powerful banks collapsed. But as each day of incessant chanting and drumming passes, an increasingly urgent question faces our nation: what do they want?

True, the protesters have extremely diverse reasons for occupying public spaces in hundreds of cities around the world, from New York to Washington to London. Some have radical ideas. Some just want to be part of something big and exciting; but the overarching complaint of the movement is that our economy works only for the benefit of the top one percent of the population who hold disproportionate shares in the overall wealth of the world. What the remaining 99 percent want is a level playing field, where everyone has equal opportunity, a fair political environment and an economic system that will not allow the top one percent to drive the economy into a ditch and then pass the bill on the remaining 99 percent.

The top one percent has tried repeatedly to portray the Occupy Wall Street movement as anti-capitalist, but this is simply not true. Our current financial system is no longer capitalist. A few large companies preside over our entire economy, with the power to prevent real competition either in the market or in politics. During the 2008 financial crisis, the famously dubbed “too-big-to-fail” financial institutions received hundreds of billions of tax dollars in direct and indirect subsidies from the Treasury and the Federal Reserve. These corporations enjoyed an implicit government guarantee, which lowered investment risks but assured huge trading profits through federal loans and low interest rates. In the meantime, tens of millions of people lost their jobs, while hundreds of thousands of families lost their homes due to the failures and irresponsibility of rich investors. Now the global economy faces yet another catastrophe, brought by the great banks of Europe. The 99 percent is on the threshold once again for the mounting cost of a new round of bailouts. The protesters are right in their anger and are right to demand change, and change will happen.

People are finally speaking out against what they have silently faced for years. The anger of the activists against injustices is shared by nearly everyone in our community. With such massive support, and such unbearable circumstances, changes will have to occur. It is time the people stop paying for these corporations and time for the government to stop propping them up. With such outrage over the situation, it is likely that the government will cave in to the pressure, but only if the effort is sustained. Right now, the wealthy control the government and economy. Unless the 99 percent make their message to the entire world loud and clear, our economic and political system will always favor the one percent.

Occupy Wall Street is not composed of a few who lost in the United States’ competitive and capitalistic market. It is in fact fighting for the 99 percent who have been repeatedly failed by an unfair system that caters only to the rich. We should not criticize the Occupy Movement; rather, we should give it our support. Some may be cynical about the timing of the Occupy Wall Street movement and the likelihood of its success, but the point remains: if not now, when?

No

By POOJA KALAPURRAKEL, II
COPY-EDITING ASSOCIATE

“We are the 99%.” This is the chant of the Occupy protesters, who claim to represent the 99 percent of Americans suffering from unequal distribution of wealth, government corruption and the overwhelming power of lobbyists and financial corporations. In essence, many of them oppose capitalism, the very foundation of the American economy. The Occupy protesters may have gained attention from everybody else, but they have not gained the attention of those whom the protests are directed at. This may be because the protesters lack a single and clear goal as well as a strong and unifying leader. Not to mention that they are disturbing the nearby unfortunate citizens with their improper behavior.

The Occupy Wall Street movement began mid-September in New York’s Financial District and has since spread to all major cities in the country. People have even begun to joke that the movement will be renamed “Occupy the World.” The question still remains: will the movement’s endeavors be effective?

One of the major demands of these protesters is to eliminate capitalism in the United States, which they claim will create a more democratic system. This idea, however, is impossible. Many of these people fail to realize that the only way to revive America’s economy is to pursue capitalist ideals. This means that although the protesters are right to argue against corporate subsidiaries, it is unwise for them to advocate for an interfering government, which would harm rather than help the unemployed. If the protesters cannot propose adequate solutions to the problems they are addressing, what can the movement even achieve?

There is no doubt that the Occupy Wall Street movement has gotten attention. Websites abound with requests to join the movement, and the media follows the crowds all over the country since the first protest. Even President Obama has turned a worried eye toward the rapidly increasing number of protesters. This “peaceful protest” has even resulted in violence and arrests in the streets. A grave example of this is when war veteran Scott Olsen of the Occupy Oakland sector was hit in the head by a police projectile and was brought to the hospital in critical condition. Unfortunately, the attention gained by the movement has only attracted more followers who do not have the power to militate change. It does not in any way appeal to the more powerful and important people: the conservative politicians. It is indeed as 2012 Republican presidential candidate Herman Cain disparagingly remarked, “Don’t blame Wall Street, don’t blame the big banks, if you don’t have a job and you’re not rich, blame yourself!” This is the viewpoint of other politicians as well. With such negative responses, how far can the protesters get?

American history has taught us that rebellions are only successful if there is unity among the rebels. This is an issue protesters face. Although protesters are fighting for the general ideal of social and economic equality, they are also fighting for their own individual reasons. Such reasons include unemployment, rising college tuition, student loans, healthcare issues and inadequate retirement plans. Not only are there many divided motives, but some protesters are simply part of the movement because they “like” to protest. This makes politicians feel as though the movement is something to be wary of, but not afraid of. Without unified demands and such a faction in the movement, politicians can simply dismiss the movement without any concern or action.

If it is true that leaderless movements can change society, will this happen with the Occupy protests? The movement simply has too many underlying issues to create change. It may become just another episode of violence and disturbance, and will most likely die down when the protesters become weary of camping out on the streets while still being ignored by the government.

Forum Question

Will the Occupy Movement Effect Change?



“I think it will definitely effect change at some point because it is increasing awareness.”
- John Carney, I



“I don’t know enough about that to answer.”
- Jordan Yu, II



“No, I feel like it is more about getting our voices out than doing anything.”
- Brian Mangilog, III



“Absolutely, because it’s a powerful movement with a lot of people behind it.”
- Wendy Lui, IV”



“No, I don’t think so, because the people up there don’t really think they have time for us lesser citizens.”
- Nick Izidore, V



“No, because the government is stupid.”
- Maya Greally, VI

FORUM

The US Needs to Heal

BY CARLOS ROJAS, I
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

It's no secret that the United States will not be stepping down from its position as the world's police officer any time soon. To this day, the United States continues to wield the "big stick" used by Teddy Roosevelt. The consequences of our overly zealous and often domineering foreign policy, started by the Roosevelt Corollary, are felt in all corners of the world—sometimes positively, as in Uganda where President Obama recently dispatched 100 troops to combat the Lord's Resistance Army, but too often negatively. The U.S. engages in unnecessary meddling in the Middle East in pursuit of oil and incurs massive deficits from foreign policy expenditures. It has become increasingly clear that what was once possible for the United States when it was a prosperous post-war nation may now prove disastrous in our presently reduced circumstances.

We simply have too many of our own problems to worry about other countries' affairs. Our government has been operating with an increasingly deep deficit that has left millions of Americans frustrated. We have even lost our coveted triple-A credit rating. This has brought the massive disparity between the richest one percent and the other 99 percent to the forefront. Over 70 major cities and 600 communities have felt the tremors of the "Occupy Wall Street" movement, which is protesting this unequal distribution of wealth.

On top of these economic troubles are the social issues. There has been a deadly breakdown in the American education system, often called the "The Great Equalizer." This will only serve to weaken the United States, which depends on productive and educated

citizens to help the country function. Thousands of illegal immigrants are flowing into the nation, joining the mass of immigrants already living in the shadows of our society. Some of these immigrants have become "Americans" in every sense of the word, though they lack government recognition. Critics, however, argue that some add to the economic problems of our nation. Either way, they split the country in an intense debate while we ought to be united.

All of these issues have caused a massive wave of disillusionment to sweep over our nation. The American spirit, which for ages has been characterized by vigor and conviction in the American way, is wavering. So why is our government so completely committed to fixing other people's problems when we have barely begun to fix our own?

We continue to pledge millions after millions of dollars to poverty-ridden, war-torn and disaster-stricken countries like Haiti, Uganda and Libya. In the first week of November, the United States pledged financial aid to Pakistan. Although the extent of that aid is still undetermined, it is predicted to be in the hundreds of millions, if not billions, of dollars. We are, however, operating at a record high deficit. How can we afford to offer such aid?

The bottom line is this: we cannot assist countries monetarily like we have up until now. I offer a simple solution:



OBAMA SENDS ONE HUNDRED AMERICAN TROOPS TO UGANDA FOR "HUMANITARIAN REASONS"

let the private sector commit to this. Let the millions of Americans and non-profits concerned about human rights around the world take care of it. They are deeply committed to changing the world and are willing to fundraise for their cause. They do not, however, have the political and economic interests that drive governments to "aid" other countries. For example, rumor has it that there is an enormous oil deposit beneath Ugandan soil, which cannot be dismissed when analyzing Obama's ostensibly "humanitarian" intentions.

Instead of allotting so much money to emergency funds and foreign aid in times when we desperately need money, we ought to take a hard look at our budget and use it to help our own nation. How about using some of the money to pay back citizens who lost their livelihoods in the recession? How about funding education grants that will encourage innovation? Maybe then,

we can salvage whatever shred of the American dream is left.

Don't get me wrong; I do have a big heart. I am disheartened to know that while I whine about sleepless nights studying for Freeman's Art History or Davis' killer AP Calculus tests, there are people struggling to put food on their family's table. I also know that while I try to win a seat in one of America's best colleges, newborns who will never live to receive a college acceptance letter are crying. That does not mean we can ignore the massive losses our country has suffered in reputation and power. Let our government fix its system, and leave it to the people to give aid in as many ways as is sensible and responsible.

Let's take care of our own humanitarian crises before we tackle those of others, and I don't hesitate for a second to call what we face today in our backyard just that.

Seven Billion and Growing

BY NHU LE, II
FORUM EDITOR

On October 31, according to statistics kept by the United Nations, the world's human population officially reached seven billion. Celebrations in schools and communities erupted as the United Nations titled multiple babies born around the world the "seven billionth baby". This event is indeed a human milestone and perhaps even an achievement, but it may not be a cause for joy. Although humans have existed for thousands of years, it was not until 1800 that human population reached one billion people. In 1927, it reached two billion. Then, in less than a century, it more than tripled. It is doubtful that Earth can maintain this exponential growth.

The world is already experiencing the effects of this rapid population rise. Countries like India and China routinely suffer from food, water and energy shortages. The tremendous disparity between the rich and poor has been increasing around the globe, even in the United States (a fact which the recent Occupy Movement brings to light). Of course, as Americans, we are largely unconscious of this. The United States' over-consumption of resources extends to all sectors of our daily lives. The most egregious example of this might be our use of fossil fuels, which amounts to a quarter of the world's resources. As people begin

to demand more rights, they will aspire to America's extravagant standard of living. Since Americans are unlikely to accept more reasonable habits to balance out the rise of the world's most impoverished, the fight for human rights will unfortunately have the consequence of aggravating global resource shortages. Add to this the two billion people set to be born by 2050, according to a 2008 U.N. projection. All these facts spell future disaster.

Of course, concerns about human population are not new. Early economists, including the renowned Thomas Malthus, have voiced similar concerns in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. In his most famous treatise, he argues that unless humanity is continually struck down by disasters, overpopulation would bring famine and ruin society. His fears were actualized with the advances of the Industrial Revolution, which drastically increased life expectancy. Clearly, however, no apocalypse occurred. Why? The Green Revolution. In the late 1900s, technological advances more than doubled global grain production and likely saved millions from starvation. But in this case, history won't repeat itself. These current fears are not alarmist in nature. There is a vast difference between the past and the present. Just because science has saved us once does not mean that it will come to our rescue again, just a few centuries later.

Climate change and lack of re-

sources are issues which many continue to attempt to solve without success. These complex issues, when coupled with a growth rate which far outstrips the speed of technological development, mean that humans ought not to depend on miraculous inventions to whisk away these concerns. Instead, we ought to turn our attention to viable, current solutions before it is too late for any action to be taken. What sort of action? Population control.

Let's be clear. Population control does not necessarily mean China's One-Child Policy. The specifics of the One-Child Policy were simply a particular regime's way of tackling population control. There are other methods. Perhaps economic incentives would be enough to curb excessive growth in countries that cannot handle it. That said, despite all the negative effects of China's One-Child Policy, it has also served to ease the country's economic and social development. Three or four million children who might have been born only to languish in poverty were simply not born. China proves population control is effective.

Some take the human rights abuses and side-effects of the One-Child Policy and claim that they are unavoidable under any plan to limit population growth. Not all countries, however, are like China. Some of these repercussions would simply not occur in many countries because they lack Chinese traditions like male favoritism

and a familial dependence. The human rights violations seen in China would be unlikely in a country with a developed court system. Even in China, human rights abuses have become very rare, as Chinese citizens have gotten used to the policy and government rules have eased.

Other critics do not fear unwanted consequences, but simply argue that lawmakers would be overstepping their boundaries. They assert that government has no business in family planning; yet isn't it the government's duty to protect the welfare of its citizens? If a government is to ensure that most of its citizens have adequate living standards, it must either control population or wage war to secure more resources at the expense of human life and the environment. When it comes down to it, I prefer a country to do the former. China has demonstrated that population control can serve some benefit to the country. It would simply be the responsibility of the government to work out legislation tailored to that country—be it federal programs, economic incentives or legal injunctions.

One thing is certain. Humans cannot keep on consuming and expanding. Surely, like any ecosystem, the Earth has a carrying capacity. It is better for humans to be cautious and act now, even if sacrifices are necessary and pain is certain, than wait for a solution that may not come in time.

303 Cafe: I Wanna Go There



WE WONDER HOW SHE GETS THOSE DOWN...

By **PATRICIA WISE, II**
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Located at 303 Sumner Street, East Boston, just four minutes from the Maverick T-Stop, the 303 Café is what would happen “if Starbucks made a restaurant,” as one patron put it. The decorative ceilings, low lighting and art pieces lining the brick walls (all of which are for sale) call to mind the hipster mood most know and love/hate about the coffee giant. Although many other restaurants and locations bring together these aesthetic pieces, the style usually alienates possible customers. The 303

Café, however, manages to welcome everyone. The cozy atmosphere, bolstered by the small tables, homey tourist mugs and quirky food names (the “Sometimes You Feel Like a Nut” espresso comes to mind) all invoke an intimacy for friends and dates, and the radio (Magic 106.7 to be exact) plays a variety of tunes that wouldn’t embarrass me if I brought my family.

Everything on the menu is flexible, from breakfast to desert, and every item is offered at virtually any time of the day. The prices are ultimately satisfying. Sandwiches cost about five dollars on average, and there are weekly promotions:

on Thursdays, burgers are half off, and on Wednesdays, wings are buy one, get one free. Three eggs with home fries and toast add up to a total of six dollars; how cheap is that? They encourage all taste palates, catering to vegetarians, vegans and everyone in-between. Each meal is made with the freshest of ingredients and on-location.

My hungry, carnivorous self went straight to the heart of this review, the meat. Being a burger connoisseur, I ordered the mushroom and jalapeno burger with waffle fries. I was not disappointed. Considering that the burger and side set me back about seven dollars (four for the burger and three for the side), the portions were enormous. I would not suggest going on a full stomach. The juicy burger was cooked medium-rare, just the way I like it, and to absolute perfection. Initially, I was worried that I would get either undercooked meat or the perfunctory burnt fast food burger. This savory burger, however, boasted the skill and mastery of its cook. The bun, which was made fresh on the spot, was stable enough to hold every delicious topping: arugula, tomatoes, jalapeños, mushrooms and gooey cheese. Yet, it was still soft enough to bite into. As for the fries, they were out-of-this-world. Satisfyingly crunchy but not burnt, like usual, each golden disc was salted beautifully and tasted even better in a bath of ketchup. The presentation looked dainty enough for the foolish silverware at my elbow, but was heady enough that I dug in caveman style, fingers first, and without remorse.

The “Dirty Chai” I ordered as a beverage was just as wonderful—sweet, but not overpowering. The whipped cream sprinkled with cinnamon was a great touch and warmed me to the bone. To top it all off, the “Death by Chocolate” lava cake brought the entire meal to a whole new level of gustatory heaven. The melted, drippy, dark chocolate was enough overwhelming indulgence for even the most voracious sweet tooth or the pickiest diner (that would be me). The cake itself was melt-in-your-mouth amazing, crumbling perfectly into the mess of lava, and it gave the sweet desert a texture that made you pause and enjoy every second. Although this portion, in comparison to the dinner, was relatively small, it was so overbearing that I shared it with a friend and still had to roll my overly-satisfied self home.

My waitress definitely earned her tip by being patient (I tend to ask far too many questions) and pleasant overall, something that can seem hard to come by when dining out. Perhaps the only drawback of the restaurant is its size. The 303 Café would definitely be overlooked, due to it being a hole in the wall—actually, in this arena, yet another comparison to Starbucks. They are very similar in size. I went on a slow Thursday during a rainstorm, so on a Friday or Saturday night, it must be awful trying to get a table, since they are severely limited. But I still recommend the 303 Café wholeheartedly. Look them up on Facebook for more deals, and do stop by. You and your wallet won’t be sorry.

A Cultural Fair

By **MAYA ALLEGRO, I**
ASSISTANT FORUM EDITOR

I went into the cultural fair unwillingly and unhappily. It was a rainy Sunday morning in October, the kind that’s perfect for sleeping in late in a cozy bed and downright immoral for moving or leaving the house in any way. I was in this mindset when I was told that I would have to accompany my mom to the last place any student ever wants to be on the weekend: Boston Latin School.

You are probably asking yourself, as I was, what could possibly be important enough to get me out of bed prematurely? It was Boston Latin School’s Cultural Fair.

Uhh...the what? Yes, the cultural fair. Though my mother sticks to her story that she had told me about it weeks ago, I was dumbfounded. I tried to recall a flyer or an announcement at school, but I had never heard of the Cultural Fair. Regardless, I ended up in the passenger seat of my minivan, with a crockpot of kola on my lap and a suitcase full of books and batik in the back. As the only Indonesian student I know of at BLS, I went to represent my country and my people, and, because my mommy made me.

When we arrived, the cafeteria had a warm and, dare I say, cozy feel to it. Each table was headed by a family representing a different culture. The tables were piled high with books, art and currency. For the younger generation, there was face and pumpkin painting. For parents, there were performances. And for everyone in between, there was food and more food.

There are not many things in this world cuter than children’s dance

recitals, and the numbers by the Asian Parent Association Student Dancers were no exception. These were not to be topped by Ms. Yang’s AP Chinese class singing Heavenly Road, a step squad show, a banjo performance by Ian Haines (I) and a beautiful Indian dance choreographed and performed by Anumita Das (I).

If you have never heard of the Cultural Fair, you are not alone. Students and parents alike have complained about BLS’ complete lack of communication, and this event suffered because of it. Quite frankly, it’s hard to see anything about this event that’s bad. There’s food from countless cultures, adorable performances, cheap JP Licks ice cream and volunteer hours for seniors and juniors. How could you go wrong?

Unfortunately, no matter how good an event is, if no one knows about it, it might as well have been an Illuminati convention. I later heard that although signs and flyers had been put up, they were ripped down, a fact of life at BLS that anyone who has ever had to hang a flyer for a function can relate to. Who does this hurt in the end? BLS itself, considering that the Cultural Fair was a fundraiser for the senior class. It was sad to see that the hard work that was clearly put into this event could only be enjoyed by the select group of people who knew about it when it had all the makings of a truly great vent.

The cultural fair has some of the most potential for any BLS PTA event. So mark your calendars for next year now. If you can manage to get yourself out of bed and make the trek to BLS a day more than usual, I promise you will not regret it.

The Clock Review



GRAB YOUR POPCORN AND GET READY FOR ONE LONG MOVIE

By **CARMEN DECRISTOFARO, I**
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

When The Lord of The Rings: Return of the King came out in 2003, people could not imagine watching a movie that was more than three hours long in cinemas. When Christian Marclay’s The Clock opened in Los Angeles and New York, however, there were people who went to see the movie for its entirety—all 24 hours of it.

Christian Marclay spent two years with six assistants watching hundreds of movies and television shows. Whenever the time was shown, either by a picture of a clock or by someone mentioning the time, he would record it. He then put the clips together so that every minute of the day is represented in a continuous and seamless flow running in real time.

It is entrancing to see how quickly time flies, even in a daylong film. The constant metronome of time ticks away in the background, and you watch every minute flow into the next with intriguing lead-ins to the next scene. A scene from a contemporary American film ends with a question. The follow-

ing scene is from a black-and-white German film’s close-up on a little girl, as if in answer. The films Marclay used in his piece vary from National Treasure to Japanese language films and everything in between.

When I went into the Museum of Fine Arts view-

ing room for the first time, it did not take long to become absorbed in the succession of clips in front of me. It is fun at first identifying actors and movies, but that quickly falls away when The Clock’s implications set in. It is a movie about time and its fleetingness, which imparts a sense of urgency upon its viewers. Scenes in the same movie range from a man tied to a bomb, glancing at a clock, to people tapping their pens on desks as it nears 5:00 PM. You begin to realize that although the concept of a 24 hour movie is staggering, the time passes without you even realizing it. By putting the movie on a 24 hour loop, with the day literally moving into the next, you begin to see a reflection of you own life, a day-to-day loop.

The Museum of Fine Arts has given limited opportunities for the public to see The Clock in its full run, which is shameful compared to other galleries that have held 24 hour viewings. Previously the museum was going to stop the showing at the end of October. They have, however, extended its run until December 31. You do not want to run out of time to see it.

A & E Walk, Walk, Fashion, Baby

By MEGAN GRILLIS, II
& ALLIE KENNELLY, III
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Fashion trends are constantly being recycled. Companies are continuously taking styles that were popular throughout the decades and transforming them into something new in a way that makes them work for modern times.



LUCY HALE ROCKS A VARSITY JACKET

From poodle skirts to disco to grunge, fashion trends have always been about taking risks and standing out. It is no secret that the contents of our closets are constantly growing and changing. What is in style in one year is almost always not the same in the next. As Heidi Klum would say, “one day you’re in, and the next you’re out.” In 50 years, however, what will people say about the style during this decade?

Fashion has certainly come full circle and in this case, history repeating itself is a good thing. For instance, what used to be considered “so 70s” is now so in! Although wearing vintage clothing does not necessarily mean raiding your mother’s closet, older styles can always be tweaked easily to look new and fresh.

One of the biggest styles of last spring, the maxi dress, was introduced in the 60s. The maxi skirt-sweater combo continues to be huge this season, especially when made with thicker fabrics to protect from freezing temperatures. The 60s also was an era of many trends that have been popular for years, such as bold prints (i.e. floral, plaid and leopard), which became popular during the 1960s Bohemian movement; in the past several years, they have been seen all over runways.

This autumn, designers decided to go even further back in time for inspiration. Trends like the varsity jacket, which has regained strength thanks to designers like Rag & Bone, Alexander Wang and even Givenchy, just scream

1950s, and they have been spotted on modern day style icons including Elle Fanning and Lucy Hale.

Even 70s fashion has made a big comeback. Although not as popular among teens, wide-leg pants, bell-bottoms and high-waisted jeans (the god-awful things your parents were wearing in their yearbook pictures) are all trends that showed their presence over the Fall 2011 runway shows. Another 70s look that has been resurrected is the oversized tee and sweater. It is no longer about tight shirts and short skirts.

Considering the new dress code, this is probably a good thing. We also can not forget the 90s styles you grew up seeing on DJ every episode of Full House: choker necklaces, grunge, bright pants and lots of denim.

So how can you rock these new trends without the fear of looking like you are wearing a costume? One aspect of fashion that has not changed over the years is accessories. Accessories are your best friend! Headbands, belts and the popular staple scarves are must-haves. It can be nerve-racking trying out new trends (especially one that could make you look like a younger version of your parents), but a familiar accessory can help you take that next step towards being a fashion genius. Belting a baggy sweater or adding a scarf to an old tee to spice it up can really make an outfit special.

Fashion is one of the most free forms of self expression. There are always a hundred ways to wear one look and a thousand ways to make it your own. We have all witnessed fashion mishaps and “never again outfits,” but the best dressed are always those who stay true to their style. Trends might be changing, but it is important that you maintain your personal style and add your own touch to whatever trends come your way.

Spotlight Paola Bennet



FACEBOOK.COM

By ROSE GALLOGLY, I
& LUYAN LIN, I
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Luyan: So, what comes to mind when you think of Paola?

Rose: Well, sometimes I fondly look back on Paola as she was when I first met her: the quiet, tall (to me) sixie with her hair parted down the middle, singing for our English class—the moment I knew I wanted to be friends with her. Not much has changed. Really! Luyan, what do you think?

L: Yeah, I’d have to agree with you there. I think we all sort of know Paola as the blonde singing girl with the brilliant blue eyes who lurks in the music wing. At one point or another during the day, we’ve all probably heard her angelic voice, whether it is in the hallways, or during class or one of the many music activities she does. Remind me, Rose, what exactly does she do?

R: Oh, the list goes on and on! This year she’s co-captain of the Wolfettes, section leader in concert choir, a member of the popular group PMT, and that’s just what she does inside of school! You can be wowed by her talents by seeing her at local open-mic nights, or by visiting her incredible YouTube page ([youtube.com/PaolaBennet](https://www.youtube.com/PaolaBennet), check it out people!). There you’ll be able to see her love of creative writing through her many original songs! Have anything else to add, Luyan?

L: Basically, Paola is one cool cat (and goodness knows she could really be a cat, she’s always making cat noises). She’s absolutely one of the most caring and friendly people you will ever meet, and don’t worry, you’ll get used to her constant singing and writing, her frequent Harry Potter and Doctor Who references (often made in a British accent) and her adorable Frenchness.

R: And somewhere right now, I’m sure Paola is rolling her eyes as she’s reading this, pretending that none of the nice things we have to say about her are true—

L: But they most certainly are!

R: Right, but she’s much too modest to admit it. So you should definitely get to know her if you can—twenty years from now, when she’s playing the coffee-house circle supported by her modest-sized but loyal fan base (as she hopes to have), looking like the modern Audrey Hepburn that she is, you will be proud to say that you are friends with the smashing Paola Bennet!

(P.S. Paola, please don’t hunt us down and kick our butts with your black-belt skills for writing this! We’re only speaking the truth.)

Paranormal Activity 3

By STEPHEN ZOULALIAN, II
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Do you want to see a movie that will scare you so bad you can’t even think about closing your eyes let alone going to sleep? Paranormal Activity 3 is not that kind of movie. If you want to see a movie that will be occasionally startling and spend most of the time laughing with your friends, you should definitely see Paranormal Activity 3. The third movie in this saga brings us back to the year 1988. Returning from the first two movies, the troubled sisters, Katie and Kristi, are little girls living with their mother and her partner. The mother’s boyfriend, Dennis, happens to be a wedding videographer. He has plenty of cameras laying around, and when things start to go bump in the night, he has the chance to record each episode. Once all the cameras are set up, the movie is underway.

This movie is not so different from the other two. It starts off very slow, but this is good because it builds up the tension. Paranormal Activity 3 will leave you with your jaw dropped. The movie has a run time of 84 minutes, and more action happens in the last six minutes than in the other 78 minutes. You are probably going to think to yourself, “Did that just happen?” I’m telling you now that it did. Paranormal Activity 3 is not really scary. It is shocking. The only “scary” thing it has is the element of surprise. If you were to see this movie a second time, I doubt you would jump

once. Nevertheless, the movie does a very good job of thrilling its audience. Dennis mounts a camera on an oscillating fan, which pans from the living room to the kitchen at a nail-bitingly slow speed. This adds to the already heavy suspense. I knew something startling was going to happen, but I still screamed when it did.

A major problem with Paranormal Activity 3 is that it blatantly contradicts the other two movies. The story attempts to tell the back story of the horrors of

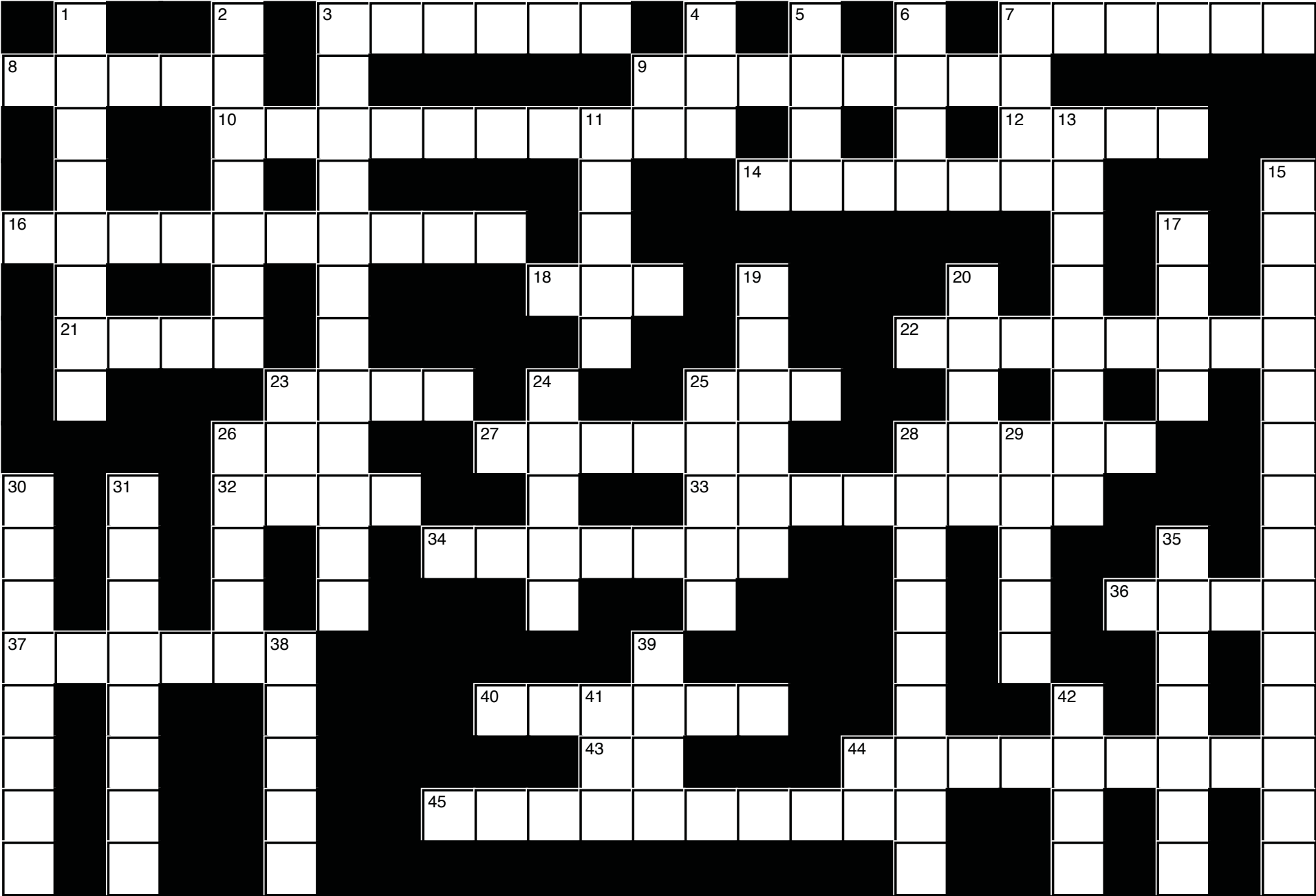
The question that still remains is whether or not you should see this movie. If you were a fan of the other two, then it is a must-see. If you hated them and think this style of film is a cancer in the film industry, then Paranormal Activity 3 will not change your mind. Paranormal Activity 3 has its moments where you might throw your popcorn in the air. Its strength is its ability to build up the tension so well. You will be searching each frame looking for something paranormal to



TWO WASN'T ENOUGH? NO? THEN THERE'S SOME SLIGHTLY SCARY CINEMA WAITING JUST FOR YOU

the previous two films. I just cannot figure out how Katie and Kristi would have forgotten these horrible events in the previous installments. I don’t think they will be able to make Paranormal Activity 4 after all the inconsistencies created by this film.

happen. It does fall short in the story department. The new details create some plot holes and lacks narrative cohesion. If you go with a group of your friends ready to scream and laugh, you will have fun. Don’t take this movie too seriously; it wasn’t meant to be.



Across

3. He said “O tempora, o mores!”
7. Capital of Alaska
8. ____ Carta
9. One of Canada’s provinces
10. New Red Sox GM
12. Capital of Ukraine
14. Weasley’s Wizard ____
16. The 99% are angry at the 1% here
18. Baseball Legend Ripken; not a member of 2012
21. Suburban spread
22. Antioch, Cadmus, and Ignotus
23. You lost it by thinking about it
25. Wolfie and NHS prez; you do this

- for apples
26. Freeman____ ; learntoquestion ad- min
27. Filet ____
28. Latin war, nom. pl.
32. ____killacashmoney\$ (VP)
33. Popular sixie Friday afternoon locale
34. New and a Half Men
36. On the house
37. Common Vietnamese surname
40. Mr. Doss’s middle name
43. Egyptian sun god
44. Describes numbers like o, i, i, 2, 3
45. Type of column on BLS entryway

Down

1. Mermaid Man and ____ Boy
2. Father of the Democratic Party
3. These girls placed first at DCLs
4. Sin/cos; bronze
5. #____was experienced every 45 min- utes #seniors
6. Joe Capp’s lair
7. Twilight shape shifter
9. Kansas City, __ (abbrev.)
11. Jewish scripture
13. Lizzie Maguire doppelganger (Italian singing sensation)
15. Aspiring BLS rap duo
17. Easter favorite; quick glance
19. Senior class president/stepping robot- ics master
20. New AP Lit teacher
23. “Wanna see the ____ show?”

24. ____ Amendment—the right to remain silent
25. One over par
26. Vote ____ and senior year will be cake!
28. Don’t stop doing this
29. Vote this person for that ka-chang ka-chang
30. Tigers love pepper; they hate this
31. Popular sixie locale on the first Friday of the month
35. Beauty school dropout
38. New physics teacher
39. Green, black, string, jelly
41. ____ Lanka
42. Nickname for Ford’s Jones por- trayal
44. A long, long way to run

Sudokus

Easy

	5	6					2	
7	9		5	2	1			
3		2	4	6	7	5	9	
2		1		3			5	
			2					6
8		4	6		9	7	1	2
		9	3		2	6		5
5			8	9	6			1
6				4		3		

Diabolical

1	5					7		8
			9			3		
	8	6	5					
	7		4	6		8		
		2	7				4	6
							9	
	2		3	5				9
			8					
6					2			

SPORTS

Beasts on the Court

By COLIN MUPHY, I
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Whether you knew it or not, the Girls' Volleyball team has been one of the most prominent squads representing Boston Latin School over the past 5 years. After a stellar 14-4 record in the 2011 season, the girls will look to make a deep run in the state playoffs. The core of the team consists of its six seniors: Claire Zimmerman (I), Chloe Lane (I), Laura Sullivan (I), Courtney Hoban (I), Madison Boone (I) and Molly McCormick (I), who all have tremendous experience at the varsity level. "Five of us have all been varsity starters since tenth grade, so we want to prove not only to the Dual County League, but also to ourselves that we've grown so much over our careers," says Sullivan. With all of this experience, the team feels that the sky is the limit, "Our goal at the beginning of the season was to reach the playoffs, and once that became a reality, we switched our mindset to making it through regionals," added Sullivan.

Like any elite team, the girls' volleyball squadron has unbelievable leadership with dual two-year captains in Claire Zimmerman and Courtney Hoban. Zimmerman is a tower in the middle of the court, whether she is spiking the ball into opponents' faces or rejecting an attempted

spike, the girl does it all. Zimmerman has adapted to the role of captain very well, saying, "After two years of being captain, I feel like I'm used to it. We've really tried to keep the team united, as there is a clear age difference between most of the starters and the rest of the team. This has worked well, as the starters have stepped up and the younger players are constantly improving." Hoban is a stud on the wing, constantly painting corners with her furious spikes. When asking Hoban what she does to prepare for the season she bluntly responded, "There is no off-season."

The girls look to avenge their two losses to arch rival Lincoln-Sudbury in their state tournament run. "The two losses to L-S really showed us that we were weak in some areas and that if we're going to be an elite team, we need to concentrate on fixing those problems," says McCormick, whose defensive prowess has been an anchor this year for the team. The team recently celebrated their Senior Day with a convincing win over scrappy Newton South, in which the girls narrowly won all three games to put down the Lions. "Coach Kai really wanted more from us after losing to L-S twice and I feel like we have responded and have won all of the games we were supposed to," added Hoban.

The team doesn't look to be stopping anytime soon either, despite the losses it

will face after this season. Maggie Mulligan (III) is a monster up at the net despite this being only her first year on the team. Her extraordinary length and athletic ability makes her one of the best blockers on the team. Erica Szulc (III) is also another budding star at the setter position, constantly setting up beautiful spikes for Hoban and Zimmerman. Emily Boone (II) is another rising player with a blazing serve that will be vital to the team's success next season.

The team will begin their trek into the state tournament against Revere on November 4. After an expected win, the team will be ready for anyone that comes in its way on the path to regionals. "We feel more confident than we have ever been during this season. We're going to respect all of our opponents, but we feel we can beat anyone at this point," added Lane. Despite an injury to key player Rachel Wolsfelt (I) before the season, the team has persevered and has established itself amongst Massachusetts' top tier of girls' volleyball teams. When asked how it was watching from the sidelines this season, Wolsfelt says, "I really enjoy watching volleyball. It's a fun sport. I wish I was out there, but at the end of the day I'm going to Duke next year so I'm still good." Whenever the team ends its season this year, they will be known as legends for years to come.

Spotlight

Lizz Jiang



FACEBOOK.COM

By ANYA BOWEN, I
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Stop and listen. Just stop and look. Wherever you are, if there is a girl wearing mismatched colors and talking inappropriately loudly, you have met Lizz Jiang. I don't mean this in a bad way; the mere appearance of Lizz makes my day infinitely better. With her little arm squeezes and mischievous smiles in the hallway, one would think that she is up to no good, but in fact "good" is just what she is about.

Lizz maintains outstanding grades, and while I do not know them exactly (because she refuses to show her report card to me or even to discuss the topic), Lizz recently applied early action to Harvard, a feat one can only undertake while maintaining a 4.0 GPA or above. (Sorry for exposing you, Lizz.) Lizz is "good" outside of school as well. She competes for the illustrious girls' varsity soccer team.

I first met Lizz during the summer before ninth grade at Millennium Park during soccer tryouts. Although I hated to admit it at the time, she was good-like really good. She was fast, too. Like faaaast. Being the only ninth graders on the varsity team that year really brought us closer together, and as she became more comfortable with the team, we got to see another side of Lizz Jiang—the funny side. It started off as side comments, just Lizz cracking a few Asian jokes and making some girls laugh. But as the season progressed, a daily speech from Lizz about "how beautiful it is to watch such great soccer, blah, blah, blah" was always expected and always ended with some phrase in Chinese. It is her good spirit and motivation that has put her in a perfect position to be voted captain for this past season, and I can wholeheartedly say that I am honored to have been led by her. Despite the soccer team's numerous losses, you can always hear Lizz on the field telling the team to "Pick it up, ladies." or "Keep your heads up. Get 'em back!" I know that this "good" that Lizz possesses and this team leadership in addition to her academic prowess will make her go far. But enough about Lizz, let's move now to her mother.

Ahhhh, the infamous Mrs. Jiang. In some ways Mrs. Jiang is a perfect image of what Lizz will be when she's older; a short, cute Asian woman speaking Chinese and holding a camera. Lizz's mom is always camera ready, speaking with a heavy accent and a smile so wide you would think that she was the one getting her picture taken. Her caring and nurturing personality reflects so strongly in Lizz that seeing them side by side—mother and daughter—makes you just want to hug something. Lizz Jiang is possibly one of the best friends a person could ever have. She's smart, athletic, kind, caring and Chinese (ni-hao!). Just go up and ask her a question, and don't worry if she laughs at you, that's just Lizz.

Making a Comeback

By AIDAN PRICE, III
STAFF WRITER

"BLS football is a joke, we never win any games, so why bother having a team?" I'm sure many have heard such utterances in the halls. In the past, they have been unfortunately true, but not this season. This season has more potential than any other I have witnessed. The Wolfpack is proving to be a formidable foe on the field this year. It is not a mystery, however, as to why they are doing so well. No black magic, just skill, determination and a will to win. This senior class proves to be the most dominant class of players in the past decade of Boston Latin School football. In addition, the team's biggest strength is unity. Some of you may have heard them singing in the locker room, on the way to practice and in the halls after a long day at Clemente Field. This season is the one to revive the good name of BLS football.

The second game of the season seemed to be the typical start of another dismal season, with the Wolfpack going into halftime down 26-0. After Coach



FACEBOOK.COM

THE LATIN OFFENSE GETS TO WORK

McDonough pointed out that Stoneham was "dadgum vanilla ice cream," Latin stormed out of the locker room and won the game 30-26. They were helped by running back, Jhalen Bien-Aime (II), who had a whopping, four-touchdown game. He is not the only lethal threat on offense; it is truly a team effort to get to the 2-yard line, from where Bien-Aime can punch it in. This was BLS's second win in the three-game win streak that started the season. BLS, however, has unfortunately reverted back into the football team that we know well and has lost five games in a row. The reason may be a lack of experience, but the leadership of captains James Bender (I) and Tyler Hallinan (I) will undoubtedly

lead them back to the path of victory.

Another player who has certainly helped the team this season is the indomitable Rudolph Lewis (I), who is impossible to tackle when he has the ball in his hands.

He had two impressive touchdown receptions in the Bedford game, which they unfortunately lost by 2 points (30-28). As many players have pointed out, the services of a skilled kicker would be greatly appreciated, so soccer players or pretty much anybody who can hit a PAT (point after touchdown), please, PLEASE, sign up.

Overall, BLS is doing better. Some people may say that it is only better in comparison to a decade of poor teams, but I say that this improvement is here to stay. The change in the players' attitudes and the development of some strong younger players will ensure that the winning ways are permanent. Go Wolfpack!

On the Trot

the swift, yet charming Cillian Clinton (II) dominate in the middle. Jake French (IV), Vaan Ravishankar (II) and Joe Petruzzello (II) hold it down in the back, stopping every ball with their mighty feet. If one happens to sneak by, however, no one needs to worry because the goalkeeper, captain Isaac Buck (I), is in net and protects his goal with everything he has. Up top, we have the Chilean god, captain Tomás "Colo Colo" Leyton-Nolan (I), leading scorer Evan Timperi (I), the wily Jordan Freundlich (II) and the lefty phenoms David "DGonz" Hernandez (II) and Colin "Murph" Murphy (I) scoring goals left and right. On the wing, Coleman Riordan (II) and Mark Favorito (II) (whom The Squid insists on calling "Shark" even though his name is clearly Mark) run up and down using their "happy feet" to seal the deal. Although the team's record was, honestly, quite poor, the Wolfpack fought hard in

every game and took down Weston 2-0 in the season's highlight, who was the State Champion two years ago. "If we can attain these positive results on a regular basis, the team will prosper," says Alex Cassesso (III), resident comedian and JMills impersonator. A commitment to changing the team's mentality to a winning one will certainly lead to future success.

"Although it is sad leaving the team after so many years, I have no doubt that Pearse will continue the legacy of legendary Latin keepers," says Buck. Along with Pearse Martin (IV), Nate Baranski (V), the McIntosh twins (V) and the core of young players who got Varsity experience this year will undoubtedly serve the team. JV players looking to make an impact on the team next year, including Billy Hart (IV), Alejandro Perez (II) and Robbie Vadala (II), will make the Wolfpack stronger for years to come.

By CILLIAN CLINTON, II
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Tall, handsome and heavenly are only a few of the words used to describe the god who is Jason Miller, aka JMills The Squid. Coach Miller shares his love for aquatic life and futsal style soccer with all of the soccer players on the Latin squad, which helps him to form a connection with each player. Not only is Coach Jason a great role model, but he has also helped a plethora of players with love dilemmas. His two favorite quotes, "Life is like a box of chocolates" and "Down in the big blue sea," helped amp up the players before game time. As the season comes to a halt, BLS "footballers" will never forget this exhilarating season.

It is undeniable that there is talent on the team for both Junior Varsity and Varsity. For Varsity, Owen Ward (III) and

Spotlight
Tomas Leyton-Nolan



By GABE McLAUGHLIN, I
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

In seventh and eight grade, I knew Tomas as the guy who had a new girlfriend every week. Every time I saw him, he was talking to a different girl. This legendary feat was coupled with another one: Tomas is the only kid I have ever known that has played on the soccer team for all six years he has been here. Because Tomas has become such a soccer god, the school did not want the team to be overrun by soccer prodigies, so they changed the rule to keep seventh graders from trying out. As I am sure everyone knows, Tomas has a fiery passion for soccer, which is matched by his fiery red hair. In the morning, you will often see him strutting down the hallway in a goofy hat or scarf, usually with the words “Chile” or “Colo Colo” on it. If Tomas hasn’t already told you, Colo Colo is a soccer team in Chile which he reps hard. The first time I actually started hanging out with Tomas was in ninth grade, when we became friends on the soccer team. We didn’t really have a place to hangout, so I introduced him to a place that my friends found: The Ruins. We have shared so many great memories there, which often involve him trying desperately trying to make a shot on the basketball hoop. As time has passed, Tomas has grown on me, and so have his b-ball skills.

There are a few things that Tomas has come to like, but there is one thing that he is obsessed with. I don’t think there has ever been a point in my life where I haven’t seen Tomas drinking an iced coffee. The obsession has gone beyond even buying it from Dunkies. He now keeps gallons of homemade iced coffee in his fridge for easy access. There is also rarely a time where I see Tomas not texting (not in school, of course). I once saw him juggling a soccer ball, drinking an iced coffee and texting on his phone all at the same time. Tomas also likes to make a point about how “hood” he is. He always talks about how he lives right behind the Archdale Projects, on the border of JP and Rozzi. But as a licensed driver, he is allowed to cruise the streets in his Prius on neighborhood watch, which he does frequently. But on the real, Tomas has shown dedication in school, on the soccer field, and in his relationships. He now has a girlfriend, who is a self-proclaimed “Real Housewife of the Ruins.” He loves her very much, and they are always together in school. If I see her by herself in the hallway, I know that Tomas isn’t in school that day. Tomas has been a great friend to me, and when I am talking to him and I hear that ever-present voice crack, it makes my soul content to know that I have a friend who is not afraid to be who he truly is.

SPORTS
Don’t Stop Believin’

By ALEXIA SPINNEY, I
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Whether you knew it or not, the Girls’ Volleyball team has been one of the most prominent squads representing Boston Latin School over the past 5 years. After a stellar 14-4 record in the 2011 season, the girls will look to make a deep run in the state playoffs. The core of the team consists of its six seniors: Claire Zimmerman (I), Chloe Lane (I), Laura Sullivan (I), Courtney Hoban (I), Madison Boone (I) and Molly McCormick (I), who all have tremendous experience at the varsity level. “Five of us have all been varsity starters since tenth grade, so we want to prove not only to the Dual County League, but also to ourselves that we’ve grown so much over our careers,” says Sullivan. With all of this experience, the team feels that the sky is the limit, “Our goal at the beginning of the season was to reach the playoffs, and once that became a reality, we switched our mindset to making it through regionals,” added Sullivan.

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Good Times in the Pool

By CIARA MURPHY, I
& DELIA RIDGE-CREAMER, I
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

The Boston Latin School Girls’ Swim Team has most certainly made a name for itself this season. The assorted theme days (boy day, cap and goggles day, nerd day, etc.) have not only brought the team together, but also brought the team its much deserved attention. Dante Velasquez (I) was so intrigued by the theme days that he made it all the way to Dorchester to see what all the hype was about. What he observed at the meet blew him away. “I have never seen such a group of hard working girls. The determination in their eyes alone is enough to send grown men running in fear,” Velasquez says. “If team spirit were a contest, they’d win it!” observed the team’s newest and biggest fan. The roar of the crowd and constant moral support at meets certainly helps to prove Velasquez’s claim.

Coached and inspired by the legendary Bruce Conley, the team started training in August. The practices are no joke as everyone’s physical and mental strength are pushed to the brink. “What doesn’t kill us makes us stronger,” Aisling Kerr (I), more fondly referred to as Noah, often says as she eagerly makes her way to practice. The season was wrapped up on November 1 as BLS fought a gruesome battle against Acton-Boxborough. Neck and neck, the meet came down to the last race; but sadly, BLS was defeated 93-91. More devastating than the loss of the meet was the loss of five departing seniors: Delia Ridge-Creamer (I), Ciara Murphy (I), Paulina Phu (I), Giselle Blanco-Santana (I) and Aisling Kerr (I).

“I’ve been on this team since sixie year and we’ve never been more unified. I love this team, they are my second family,” a tearful Paulina Phu commented. No one on the team would disagree. The team, made up of fifty or



LADIES, CHUCK UP DEM DEUCES

so girls from grades seven to twelve, has made its name as one of the largest teams in the school. Naturally with such large numbers, it was hard to avoid cliques and drama in the past. This year, through the tremendous leadership of captains Ciara Murphy, Delia Ridge-Creamer and Michealla Jones (II), the horrors of the past were overcome. Tackling the problem with a variety of strategies, the team was transformed and a plethora of memories were made along the way. “These three girls, wow, I have never seen such love or care for a team; they really put their all into the team,” manager Eddie Lui (I) exclaims, “I am so proud.” From sprit, to unity, to determination, this team is one that cannot be beat.

The team is full of diverse talents, ranging from vocal abilities, dancing skills, diving, announcing, spitting games and lyrical genius. One thing is certain: leadership is something that the team won’t lack. Both in the pool and on the deck, Michaela “Stinky” Jones (II) will continue to inspire and lead the younger swimmers. Full of spunk and spirit, Abbie Kaplan (III) will continue to hold

the team together with her loud cheers and words of encouragement. Sally Wu’s (III) very presence is enough to inspire thousands. The legacy of swimming success will continue with the help of Nora Cameron (IV), Kristen “Beauty Queen” Fields (IV), Isabele and Camile DeSisto (IV), Monica Ovalles (IV), Ciara Sheerin (IV) and the impressive diver Sylive “BIG DOG” Stoloff (IV).

The closeness of the team made it that much more difficult for the seniors at their senior meet last Tuesday. Tears were shed, hugs were shared and hearts were moved as words of thanks passed between the wise elders and the young minnows. “Honestly, I almost cried, it was a beautiful moment,” the Wolfpack Fanatic and onlooker at Tuesday’s meet, James Verderico (I), admitted. Sure to go down in history as the most inspiring leaders to have ever lived, the seniors, reluctant to leave their beloved team on Tuesday, have no doubt that their legacy of uniqueness and unity will be carried on. “We’re leaving the team in good hands,” captains Murphy and Ridge-Creamer commented, “they won’t let us down.”